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TAKING AIM AT GUN THEFTS

Gun thefts in Alberta have surged by a staggering 1,400 per cent over five years, according to new data from the Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams. Norman Hamilton, manager of the Calgary Shooting Centre, hopes the trend will prompt gun owners to take even stronger measures in securing their weapons. For the story, see pages 18 and 19. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Premier won't rule out lifting tuition cap

Education. Mayor Nenshi says it's 'worst possible time' to hurt post-secondary access

The premier noted the province is facing a projected \$7-billion deficit should oil prices stick near the \$50-per-barrel mark.

He said, however, it will be important to maintain "excellence" among the province's universities, colleges and polytechnics.

But talk of potential added costs for students stoked concerns from Mayor Naheed Nenshi, a former post-secondary professor.

"If this is a time when people are getting laid off and they are seeking to go back to school — which is what we want them to do — it's the worst possible time to raise tuition caps and cut post secondary education," the mayor said. "So we have to be very thoughtful about the areas that we're cutting."

JEREMY NOLAIS/METRO
WITH FILES FROM HELEN PIKE

Premier Jim Prentice says Alberta's post-secondary sector needs a revenue injection and didn't rule out making changes to — or completely eliminating — the cap on annual tuition increases.

His comments Thursday came after Metro published a story late Wednesday citing sources that said the Tory government is considering cutting a regulation that only allows tuition to be increased at the rate of inflation. This year, the maximum increase allowed was 2.2 per cent.

Prentice did not directly address the cap when asked in a scrum with reporters, but said: "We need to increase revenues to the universities — we're looking at all the options."

Tuition hike fears spur student call to action. See story, page 21.



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Younger generation of curlers taking to the ice

Brier championship. Curling clubs working to reconnect youth to the sport



MORGAN MODJESKI
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Gliding down the ice at a steady pace, the curling rock has become an unofficial symbol of Canadian culture. This weekend, one of the sport's biggest competitions is coming to Calgary.

The Tim Horton's Brier will see Canada's best men's curlers converge on Calgary from Saturday to March 8, and local club managers say it's these kinds of tournaments that are attracting a new generation to the sport.

"There's more young curlers playing, but it's a sport for all generations," said Gord McNabb, Brier event manager.

"It's a great sport that you can play all your life and if you don't have young people coming up, then there won't be curling clubs and Brier championships down the road."

He explained there are a number of factors contributing to a younger crowd pick-

ing up a broom and hitting the ice, as modified tournaments and themed events are taking the traditional sport in new directions.

"You've got to make it fun, that's the main thing," he said. "Make it fun and everybody will enjoy it."

Robert Laycock, co-chairman of the 2015 Brier and general manager of the Calgary Curling Club, said many people are naturally drawn to the game because it's an inexpensive sport and a good way to socialize, but seeing high-level curlers go head-to-head always encourages even more to pick up a broom.

Following the Brier, he said the Calgary Curling Club has already organized introduction events to accommodate the flood of people looking to hit the ice.

"We're going to get hundreds of calls about people wanting to try it and we have to make it easy for them," he said of an event slated for April 19.

"We'll give you equipment, we'll give you a lesson and we'll get you on the ice and you can experience it."

Stan Usselman, general manager of the North Hill Curling Club, said events like the Brier, which is expected to attract thousands of spectators to Calgary's Scotiabank Saddledome, always cause a spike in interest and phone calls to the club, which he says is now booked solid.

"Every time the Brier comes to town we get a whole surge of people phoning and looking to book ice



Robert Laycock, co-chairman of the 2015 Brier and general manager of the Calgary Curling Club, prepares to throw a rock Thursday afternoon. He says events like the Brier are a contributing factor in a growing number of young people becoming interested in the sport. MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO

and try it, which is really good, but the unfortunate thing is we're a very busy club — we're full."

However, with less than 150 curlers under 30 out of more than 1,200 who use the club, he said they're always trying to recruit more young adults to the game.

"I would say that our junior program is holding its own. It's been pretty full for the last four years and it's staying that way" he said of the program, which has participants ranging in age from eight to 19.

"They're the future of my club," he said. "If we can get

More coverage

For a preview of the Brier, turn to page 47.

them hooked on curling, then they'll keep coming back."

1 NEWS

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Mount Royal wants tight-knit feeling — but more students

Education. Institution's board of governors passes ambitious strategic plan



JEREMY NOLAÏS

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Mount Royal University will aim to take in thousands more students in the years ahead, all the while maintaining a tight-knit community feel that appeals to learners, says the school's president.

This week, the institution's board of governors passed an ambitious strategic plan running to 2024-25, one that comes complete with hard-number targets for enrolment, baccalaureate programs and financial supports for students.

Mount Royal hopes to boost its head count to 13,000 full-load equivalent students — currently there are just over 8,000.

"I want to grow to 13,000 because it's a critical mass of students and it would allow us to make our reputation as the best mid-size undergradu-

Online

To read Mount Royal University's full strategic plan, head to metronews.ca/calgary



Mount Royal University president David Docherty says that although his institution has eyes on large-scale growth, students will still get one-on-one time with instructors and have access to an array of courses. METRO FILE

ate institution in the country," MRU's president David Docherty said in an interview prior to the plan being passed.

According to Docherty, the "student mix" at Mount Royal, which earned its university stripes in 2009, will also shift. There will be greater emphasis on bringing in international and aboriginal students, as well promoting a university-entrance option program that allows students to still take

required courses even if they don't initially make the cut for their program of choice.

Bryan Pinney, chairman of the school's board of governors, said MRU's focus will remain on helping students transition from school to the working world.

"I've often referred to Mount Royal as 'Next Step U,'" he said. "The students that come out of Mount Royal are, No. 1, very employable ... they hit the

ground running and the small class sizes here allow them to make such a connection with the professors, who are there because they love to teach."

Mount Royal will push to add four formal degrees; more than double the areas students can major in; and supply 150 per cent more students with scholarships, bursaries and awards of various sorts. Docherty said, however, that his hope is the school can

maintain its small-town feel. He, for one, enjoys sipping a Starbucks coffee while walking the "main street" of the university's primary building and chatting with students.

"Students have more program choice, course choice here," he said. "They can come here for a full variety of things — and that's great — while, at the same time, they still get that kind of attention a small, liberal arts institution gives."

Chief retires

Prentice mum on Hanson's plans

Alberta's premier heaped praise on retiring Calgary police Chief Rick Hanson Thursday, but didn't delve into whether his government would recruit the law-enforcement pioneer.

Hanson announced Wednesday he will leave the Calgary Police Service in two weeks, ending a 40-year career in policing.

Since then, speculation has swirled that Hanson could be a prime candidate for Jim Prentice's Tory government as it heads into an expected springtime election. But Prentice told reporters only Hanson could speak about his future plans.

"I'm sure he'll do that in the days ahead," Prentice said, later adding, "He'd be a fabulous candidate for public service, certainly. There's no doubt about that, he's an extraordinary Alberta and Canadian and I have all the admiration in the world for him."

Mayor Naheed Nenshi, meanwhile, said he would be meeting with Rodney Fong, chair of the Calgary Police Commission, to discuss a successor for Hanson.

"Ultimately, the chief works for the commission, and the commission decides, but I believe council does have a role to play and he and I will figure out how to do this — we are going to get a great person for this job," Nenshi said.

JEREMY NOLAÏS/METRO, WITH FILES FROM HELEN PIKE

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Cellphone service in hospitals to get a boost

Technology. Alberta Health Services working on improving mobile signal reception



ROBSON FLETCHER

robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

You may not be seeing no-cell-phones signs in Alberta's emergency rooms much longer.

Alberta Health Services is actively looking to boost cell signals and eliminate "dead zones" throughout its larger hospitals.

Noting staff members "now have an expectation" that cell service will be available "anywhere at any time," AHS has put out a request for submissions from companies that provide distributed antenna systems (DAS) that could boost cellular and other radio-frequency signals throughout their facilities.

The "lack of adequate cellular voice and data coverage" within hospitals has been "the source of many complaints and escalations from AHS staff including physicians," according to the request.

"Specific examples would include physicians who are unable to receive urgent pages or phone calls," the request states.

Penny Rae, chief information officer for AHS, said the DAS systems are needed because of all the "concrete, metal, and radioactive areas" in hospitals that impede open-air signal transmissions.

The upgrades are meant to improve coverage not just for staff but patients and visitors too, wrote Rae.

Terry Lo, a communications professional who sometimes



Unlike other hospitals, Calgary's newest hospital, the South Health Campus, already has a distributed antenna system (DAS) to boost cell signals throughout the giant building. METRO FILE PHOTO

Quoted

"We understand the world has changed and individuals expect their cellphones to work wherever they are."

Penny Ray, Alberta Health Services chief information officer

has to spend a week or more in the hospital due to a chronic condition, said it was always frustrating when he got stuck in a room with no cell service and had to keep up with work.

"I always kind of begged to be put in a room near a win-

dow of some sort so I could get cellphone coverage," he said, adding that it would be a "god-send" for him to have boosted signals throughout hospitals.

Alberta Nurses' Union president Heather Smith said nursing staff don't use mobile devices a lot as it stands, but she says she can see "increased utilization" if reception was more reliable for things like quickly looking up information on a particular condition, treatment or drug with the "computer in their hand" instead of the computer at the nearest desk.

"The reality is that patients are accessing that same information themselves," Smith said.

Where

AHS has ranked its hospitals by order of priority for new distributed antenna systems to boost cell signals.

- **Foothills Medical Centre.** Within one year
- **Alberta Children's Hospital.** Within two to three years
- **Peter Lougheed and Rockview hospitals.** Within three to five years

Tories set campaign school

Progressive Conservative candidates will go to campaign school at the end of March, Metro has learned, in yet another sign of a looming spring election.

Metro confirmed with several sources the Tories plan a campaign college for all of their candidates in Red Deer on March 29.

The college, typically held shortly before a campaign, gives candidates and their teams in-

Quoted

"It's pretty consistent with what we've seen the government building on,"

University of Alberta adjunct professor Bob Murray

formation about the plan for the campaign, lessons in media relations and other skills.

Bob Murray, vice-president of research with the Frontier Centre and an adjunct professor at the University of Alberta, said the timeline makes sense.

Murray said he expects a campaign could start almost immediately after the college and Albertans could be headed to the polls towards the end of April.

Politically, Murray said, the Prentice government is strik-

ing while its chances are best. He said with the Wildrose moving up their leadership date and the Liberals planning to fight the campaign with an interim leader, the opposition won't be as prepared.

"There is no reason to go to the polls unless you believe that this budget is going to be so bad that you might not be as successful after several years of austerity," he said.

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO

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Nicolino Ivano Camardi pleaded guilty to animal abuse charges. METRO FILE

Crime. Sentencing hearing delayed for animal abuser

Animal advocates in Calgary say they're not bothered by a delay in the sentencing of a man whose abusive actions ended in the death of two animals in 2014.

Nicolino Ivano Camardi, who pleaded guilty to two counts of willfully causing unnecessary pain, suffering or injury to an animal in December 2014, made a brief court appearance at Calgary's provincial court on Thursday morning.

However, a potential sentencing on the matter was pushed back until March 23 as the courts are still waiting for a psychiatric assessment report to be completed.

Heather Anderson, founder of the Daisy Foundation, which advocates for harsher punishments for animal abusers, ex-

plained that while advocates "want to see justice served," she was not bothered by the delay.

"In a situation like this, we expect it," she said.

"I don't think that I would call it losing patience, I would just say that we're getting a little annoyed," she said, noting she feels the more time he's in custody the better.

"What will probably happen, unfortunately, is it will be time served," she said. "At least right now, he's still in jail, so I guess that does put a smile on my face."

The two animals, a Siberian husky and a shorthaired domestic cat, were found just a week apart in January 2014 with their muzzles bound shut in the 200 block of 99 Avenue SE. **MORGAN MODJESKI/METRO**

Banks. Ex-employee charged after info swiped

A 37-year-old former bank employee is facing a number of fraud and identify theft charges after it's alleged she unlawfully used the personal information of customers to illegally purchase more than \$10,000 in goods and property.

Police say between June 2012 and November 2013, a woman working as a customer experience associate at a southwest Calgary financial institution unlawfully requested

sensitive personal information.

Following an investigation that lasted more than a year, Georgia Carla Rankine, 37, was charged with theft of identification, uttering credit card data, and identification fraud, alongside four counts of fraud under \$5,000.

Impacted customers have been notified about the activity and Rankine is no longer employed with the bank. **METRO**



Chelsea Jean regularly rides buses and CTrains with her dog, which is allowed under Calgary Transit rules, even if not everyone is aware of it. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

Commuter barks back after ruff ride

Transit. Despite what some think, dogs are allowed on buses and CTrains, and don't have to pay a fare any more

HELEN PIKE
helen.pike@metronews.ca

Calgary Transit can be a dog's best friend, but ignorance from some riders — and operators — on city buses and CTrains can make bringing furry friends

along for the ride a nerve-wracking experience, says a long-time transit rider who commutes with her pooch.

Chelsea Jean has ferried her rescue pet to and from their favourite dog park for years but is now reconsidering her transport choice after a rough ride home from the vet's office.

"The driver was muttering under his breath he didn't want mutts on the bus," said Jean, who felt uncomfortable but wasn't too concerned at first, until she departed the bus and boarded the LRT downtown.

"The driver saw me stand-

ing with my dog ... it proceeded to say over the PA that there are no dogs allowed on the trains during rush hour," she said. "Everyone turned around and stared at me."

But Ron Collins, a spokesman for Calgary Transit, said dogs have long been allowed on both buses and trains with no restrictions on hours. The only conditions are that dogs must be on a leash and well behaved.

Calgary Transit used to charge a separate fare for dogs, but since 2012 the pets are allowed to board for free.

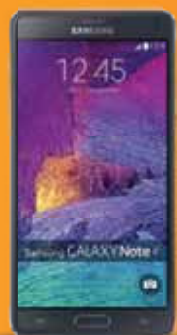
Jean said she's generally

happy about Calgary Transit's dog policy, even if it's not widely known.

"This was the worst day; I've never had anyone complain ... usually it's been good," she said. "But I don't think I should be penalized or given trouble for having a dog when clearly I'm allowed to."

Smaller pets that can fit in a cage are also welcome on transit, Collins said, although he wasn't sure about snakes.

But, as long as they aren't bothering anyone, he generally sees no issue with bringing pets along for the ride.



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Wildfire season. Prep on track despite financial crunch: Province

Alberta says its financial crunch is not affecting preparations for the wildfire season, which starts Sunday.

Wildfire officer Geoffrey Driscoll said Alberta Environment is positioning the same number of firefighters, forest watchers and equipment as last year.

"We are going to continue to operate the way that we are right now with the firefighters that we need," Driscoll said Thursday. "We will get more if we need more."

The province has been getting ready early for wildfires since the May 2011 blaze that destroyed about a third of the town of Slave Lake.

The plan is to have 500 firefighters on duty during the peak of the season, and to quickly hire up to 1,500 more if needed.

If the fires get really serious, the province can call in crews and equipment from other jurisdictions across North America.

Money to pay for actually

Last season

Last season crews responded to more than 1,400 wildfires in the forest zone that burned up about 230 square kilometres of timber, he said. More than 60 per cent of these fires were caused by people.

- Starting Sunday, fire permits are required in Alberta's forested areas for any type of burning other than campfires.

fighting wildfires would come from an Alberta government emergency fund.

Driscoll said how quickly the snow melts in the coming weeks will help determine the risk of wildfires.

He said a slow melt is preferred, as it will allow more moisture to soak into the ground that would allow the forest to green up faster.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

CHIEF HANSON RETIRES, ALREADY EYEING NEW GIG?



IN DEFENCE OF
Mike Morrison
calgary@metronews.ca

This week, Calgary police Chief Rick Hanson surprised everyone when he announced his retirement.

I guess it shouldn't come as a complete surprise — he's been a police officer for more than four decades. But another surprise was the rumour that Hansen is considering starting his next career almost immediately.

His next career? Am I the only one hoping that if I work anywhere for more than 40 years, my next career is sitting in a Tim Hortons for hours on end, drinking coffees that people buy me because I'm a cute old man?

So what's the rumoured next career for Hanson? Some are saying that he might be running for the PC party in the upcoming provincial election. At this week's press conference, Hanson was elusive, saying he wouldn't speculate on what he's up to next.

But maybe I shouldn't be too surprised. According to Statistics Canada, nowadays, most Canadians who leave their jobs between the ages of 55 to 59 years old actually return to work within a decade. Then there are people like Hazel McCallion. She's the 94-year-old retired mayor of Mississauga, Ont., who after serving in the city's top job for almost four decades stepped down last November — but then this week announced that she's returning to the workforce as a special adviser to the president at the University of Toronto's Mississauga branch. I repeat, she's 94 years old.

Why don't people just retire anymore? I'm not saying they have to go ahead and move right into a nursing home, but dealing with an annoying electorate and toeing the party line is the last thing I want to do in my final decade or two (hopefully three). It's sort of how I feel about Betty White. The 93-year-old TV icon seems to be busier than ever, but part of me wishes that she wasn't still working. She's entertained us for decades; I just want her to relax a little bit and eventually die surrounded by her beloved pets and family, not beside some assistant director on the set of a Snickers commercial.

How did I end up talking about how I want Betty White to die? If the rumours were true and Hanson is considering a run in politics, it would perhaps be Premier Prentice's best decision yet. (Granted,

Next career

Am I the only one hoping that if I work anywhere for more than 40 years, my next career is sitting in a Tim Hortons for hours on end, drinking coffees that people buy me because I'm a cute old man?

the list of great decisions is pretty small.) Hanson is extremely well-liked and if you can't trust the chief of police, who can you trust?

But I honestly don't get the shine of wanting to be an MLA anymore, especially later in one's life. In Alberta, it seems like you'd be more useful volunteering at a soup kitchen than being a part of a government with such a crushingly large majority. If Hanson wants to use his retirement years taking the Red Arrow up to Edmonton, well then that's up to him.

Me? I'm already looking forward to that free coffee. Mike Morrison tweets from @mikesbloggity.

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Airdrie residents vow to 'take back' park, but police are leery

Crime. Questions raised about whether areas are really seeing influx of illegal activity



JEREMY NOLAÏS
jeremy.nolais@metronews.ca

Dozens of residents have signed on for planned patrols of an Airdrie park they claim has become a "prime location" for teen drug and alcohol use, intimidation, and other unsavoury activities.

Melinda Tobias-Sarpal, founder of the "Take Back Chinook Winds Park" Facebook page, said she no longer feels safe allowing her kids to venture into the area on their own.

"There are drugs being sold to children in the park," she said. "There is graffiti and theft going on. There have been people that have said they don't feel safe."

There are also reports of trouble in other city parks, like Nose Creek and East Lake, Tobias-Sarpal said.

But Airdrie RCMP Const. Jason Curtis said there hasn't been a "notable increase" of crime in the Chinook Winds area or at other parks.

"I think Facebook has



Residents living near Airdrie's Chinook Winds Park say crime is on the rise, but RCMP and the city's mayor aren't so sure. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

enabled people to be very enthusiastic about issues ... I commend people for their enthusiasm and their interest definitely, but I don't personally believe — and we

don't have any evidence — of any increasing crime trend or anything," Curtis said, before adding residents are still encouraged to report anything suspicious witnessed

in the areas.

To date, Tobias-Sarpal's page has received support from 150 others and a number have said their kids no longer feel safe at the park.

Tobias-Sarpal said she's begun meeting with city officials and law-enforcement representatives and the hope is to begin routine patrols of Chinook Winds by mid-

spring.

"We're really just there in orange vests to create a presence in the park, and the reason we're creating a presence in the park is to make the people that are engaging in illegal activity and criminal activity feel uncomfortable doing so there," she said.

Airdrie does already have an organized group of residents, known as Citizens on Patrol, that circles the community in a bid to bolster safety. Just last month, that group helped RCMP arrest and charge a man believed to be responsible for vandalizing a dozen vehicles.

City Mayor Peter Brown, meanwhile, has pledged to join in on the civilian patrols of Chinook Winds should they prove necessary, but he said a private firm already conducts similar sweeps and security cameras were installed in the area years ago.

"We're coming together as a group and looking at the best solutions to move forward," Brown said. "Invariably, we have I don't know how many visitors to our parks each year and the experience is, 99 per cent of the time, a great experience."

Follow Jeremy Nolaïs on Twitter @Metro_Nolaïs



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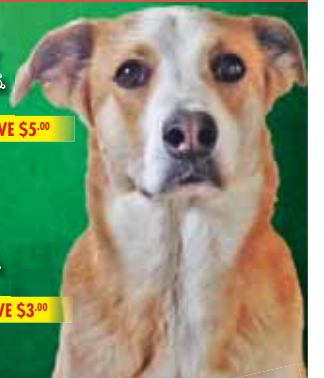
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Edgemont residents had skate park heads-up: Nenshi

Mayor Naheed Nenshi said he saw no snags in the Edgemont community association's campaign to land a skate park after the project was abruptly put on hold Tuesday for further consultation — including a location change.

The city met with community members earlier this week.

Council decided to put the project on hold for three to nine months while a new location is scouted, after a peti-

tion by concerned citizens objected to the John Laurie park location chosen months ago.

"The challenge with this particular issue is that there has been tonnes of commun-

ity engagement over the course of a couple of years," said Nenshi. "Just yesterday I happened to be at my sister's house in that neighbourhood and I was looking through

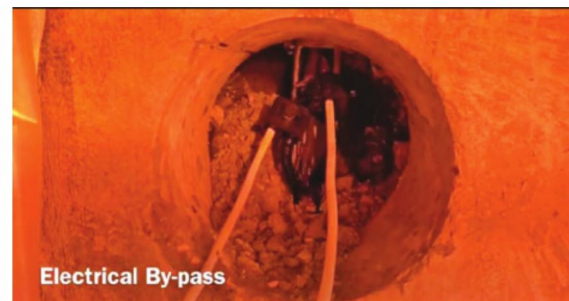
some old Edgemont community newsletters and talk of the skate park has been happening for a long time."

He added it seemed strange a group would waltz in last minute with the amount of community engagement he witnessed complaining the park would be too close to the residential area — especially since the location is next to the already noisy John Laurie Boulevard.

METRO

Quoted

"I think that both the community association, the residents, and the people in northwest Calgary made it clear that there should be a skate park in Edgemont." Mayor Naheed Nenshi



Electrical By-pass

A screenshot taken from the ALERT video shows a massive hole cored through the foundation of a home used to cultivate roughly 900 pot plants. It's a way to bypass the home's electrical meter. The damage is just one hazard highlighted in the video. SCREENSHOT

Grow-ops cause house damage

ALERT. A first-hand look at residential marijuana cultivation



MORGAN MODJESKI
morgan.modjeski@metronews.ca

At first glance, it appears to be a regular suburban home, but get past the front door and you enter into the bowels of an extensive marijuana grow-operation.

As a way to educate the public about the danger of these drug operations hiding in plain sight, Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams have released a video showing the inner workings of a residential grow-op, producing roughly \$1 million worth of pot.

"What we're trying to get through ... is to give people a visual picture of what it looks like when we walk inside there," said Staff Sgt. Keith Hurley, who oversees ALERT's Green Team.

"You can see clearly the wir-

ing, the electrical, the tampering, the things you can't see from the outside," he said of the video, which showcases overloaded and modified circuits, black mould and hundreds of marijuana plants.

"From the outside of that house, it looks like a normal house."

Alongside playing host to numerous dangers for neighbouring residences, like fire hazards, structural modifications and jerry-rigged electrical systems, investigating officers can also be exposed to another level of threat.

Hurley said even with city safety teams on hand to deal with utilities, there have been instances in the past where responding officers have had minor exposure to electricity.

The Martindale residence, which was involved in a bust by ALERT in late January, was actually in decent shape as far as grow-ops go, Hurley said, noting he's seen "much worse-off houses and much worse-off electrical."

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Calgary is no stranger to smog, scientists say

Environment. Widespread oil extraction causes unique problems including sour gas



ROBSON FLETCHER
robson.fletcher@metronews.ca

Calgary's air is typically cleaner than in Toronto or Montreal, but that doesn't mean it's always easy breathing, according to the people who keep a watchful eye on airborne pollutants in this city.

"Over the summer, we were getting sometimes two to four exceedances per month, where the concentration exceeds one of our air-quality criteria," said Mandep Dhalwal, air-quality program manager with the Calgary Region Airshed Zone (CRAZ).

The most common pollut-

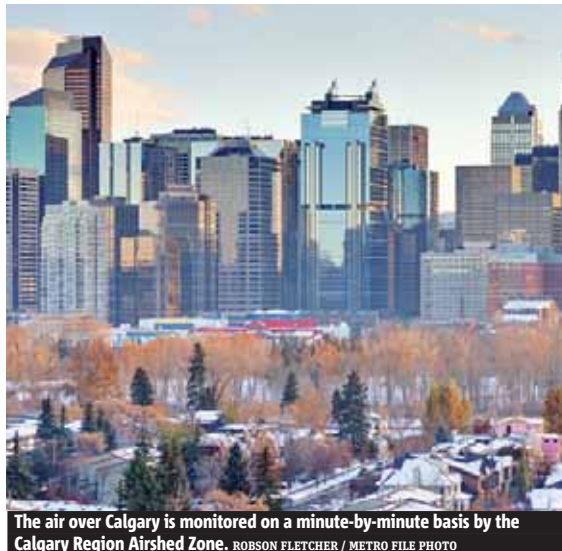
ants in Calgary are the usual suspects in other cities' air-pollution problems: ground-level ozone and fine particulate matter that combine to form what is commonly known as smog.

And while you're unlikely to see smog obscure the top of the Bow building the way it often masks the CN Tower, CRAZ executive director Jill Bloor said it can still have an effect on people with existing respiratory problems, as well as "the very old" and "the very young."

"When you have exceedances, you often have a correlation in doctor visits," Bloor said.

With its widespread oil extraction, Dhalwal said Alberta has its own unique air-quality problems and monitoring stations here watch for related pollutants like hydrogen sulfide, commonly known as sour gas.

"We're getting lots of H₂S exceedance — hydrogen sulfide exceedance — at



The air over Calgary is monitored on a minute-by-minute basis by the Calgary Region Airshed Zone. ROBSON FLETCHER / METRO FILE PHOTO

the southeast station (in Calgary)," he said.

While the H₂S levels are "very low" and not acutely harmful in the short term, Dhalwal said the effects of

chronic, low-level exposure to sour gas are unclear.

"No one has done a study in Calgary on that yet, the long-term effects of H₂S," he said.



TV series brings the 70s back to city

Cameras are rolling in Calgary for season two of the popular FX series Fargo. With the show set in the late '70s, 7 Avenue. S.W. was filled with vintage vehicles while the crew filmed inside McDougall Centre on Thursday.

JENNIFER FRIESEN / METRO

'In crisis.' Hospitals pushed to limit, says NDP

Documents the NDP released Thursday show Edmonton's hospitals have been pushed into their overcapacity protocols more and more over the last few weeks.

Party leader Rachel Notley released documents revealing the local hospitals that were over capacity between 20 and 30 times a week in April 2013, are now over capacity 70 to 80 times a week.

"The crisis and the frequency of crisis in our emergency rooms has almost

tripled over the course of the last two years," said Notley.

She said the government's conscious decision not to build long-term care beds is the primary driver of this crisis.

"This is the predictable result of the government's decision to stop building genuine long-term care spaces for aging Albertans," she said.

With budget cuts looming, Notley said Albertans should be asking what impact the rollbacks will have on an already-stretched system.

"How can you claim to care about regular Albertans when you are going to take a system that is already in crisis and put it in even greater crisis," she said.

Health Minister Stephen Mandel's press secretary Steve

Buick said all of this information is not new and the minister is committed to adding more long-term care spaces.

"He is working on an aggressive new plan to increase long-term care."

RYAN TUMILTY/METRO EDMONTON

Quoted

"The frequency of crisis in our emergency rooms has almost tripled over ... the last two years."

NDP Leader Rachel Notley

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Premier Jim Prentice says three of Alberta's four government planes have been sold. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Controversial fleet mostly sold: Premier

The province. Planes became symbols of waste, excess and entitlement that brought down Alison Redford

Alberta Premier Jim Prentice says his government has sold three of the four planes that were part of the controversial provincial fleet.

The first decision of Prentice's new cabinet was to sell the four-plane fleet that had become a public relations millstone around the neck of the Progressive Conservative government.

The planes had become symbols of waste, excess and entitlement that brought down former PC premier Alison Redford last March.

"The first decision that we made was in fact to put the government air fleet up for sale, which was executive order No. 1 as I referred to it," said Prentice in a noon-hour speech Thursday to the Canadian Club of Calgary.

"The Dash 8 is still available if anyone in the room is interested," Prentice said.

Alberta auditor general Merwan Saher reported last year that Redford had used the "aura of power" of the premier's office to take the planes for personal trips for herself,

her pre-teen daughter, and her daughter's friends.

He said Redford's staff even booked phantom passengers on the planes so that Redford could fly solo.

Government MLAs also used the planes to fly to political events under the guise of official government business.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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Wilson Shing gives Linnea Anderson a quick lesson in how to use Keramikos Kitchen ceramic knives. JENNIFER FRIESEN/FOR METRO

‘Spring is just around the corner’

Calgary Home and Garden show.

65,000 expected through the weekend, manager says

JENNIFER FRIESEN
calgary@metronews.ca

The Calgary Home and Garden show opened up Thursday afternoon, transforming the concrete BMO Centre to a sea of green.

This year, the show has taken a garden focus to distract from the dreary February weather outside, said show manager Teri Salazar.

“We really want to remind people that spring is just around the corner,” she said. “It’s a little bit of an escape from the winter weather.”

Salazar added that they have more exhibitors than ever this year, with more than 650 local companies setting up stock and handing out advice.

With Calgary’s harsh climate, it’s not always easy to keep a garden alive, so Salazar said they brought in local gardeners and landscapers to point potential green thumbs in the right direction.

“It’s great to watch shows on HGTV and get inspired, but they’re showing you amazing designs for places like California,” said Salazar.

“This is Calgary; we have to be pretty cognizant of what kind of basements we have and the cold winters, so in that sense it’s really great to have local expert advice.”

There are options to get a free 10-minute consultation from an interior designer, build your own terrarium, or learn to grow your own edible garden — even if you live in an apartment.

And of course, there’s always the option to just buy a swanky new hot tub or a Tupperware set.

The event runs until Sunday, and Salazar said she expects to see 65,000 Calgarians come through the doors through the weekend.

Red Deer

Teen sentenced for threat to shoot school staff, students

A teen has been given probation for threatening to shoot students and staff at a high school in central Alberta.

The teen, now 18, was

sentenced to 15 months of probation in Red Deer youth court.

He can’t be named because he was 17 at the time of the crime.

Police say a note was left at a high school in Red Deer last April in which the teen threatened to shoot staff and students.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

Hospital

Another child from Fort McMurray family dies from bedbug insecticide

Another child has died after being exposed to an insecticide his parents were using to kill bedbugs in their northern Alberta apartment.

The two-year-old boy died Thursday while being treated

at Stollery Children’s Hospital in Edmonton.

Imam Sherif El Sayid of the Al Rashid mosque told mourners about the boy’s death during the funeral for his eight-month-old sister, who died Sunday.

“He said today we are burying her and tomorrow is the funeral of her brother,” an official from the mosque said.

Allan Vinni, who is the lawyer for the Fort McMurray family, identified the

boy as Zia-Ul Hasan Syed. His father is Syed Habib and the mother is Nida Habib.

RCMP have said the mother took her five children to the hospital in Fort McMurray on Sunday after they started vomiting. The baby girl died and two of the children were transferred to Edmonton for treatment.

Taj Mohammed, principal of the Fort McMurray Islamic School, said one child, believed to be about five years old, remained in hospital.

“All we know is that the second child has passed away,” he said. “The other one is still critical. The two who are with the parents are doing well.”

Mohammed said the parents are struggling to come to terms with what has happened to their children.

He said people are doing what they can to help the family, who moved to Alberta from Ontario a few years ago.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



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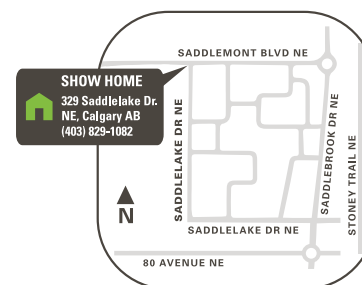
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Cheerleading event still on despite mall threat

Some Alberta cheerleading teams have opted to pull out of upcoming championships due to recent terrorist videos targeting West Edmonton Mall, say cheer officials.

The Alberta Cheerleading Championships kick off March 6 at Edmonton's largest mall, but terrorist group al-Shabaab's video listing West Ed as a place to attack had parents and cheer teams concerned for their children coming to participate.

"The board did review all of

the information, the concern from teams and parents and made their decision a short time ago that it is definitely proceeding," said Denise Fisher, executive director of the Alberta Cheerleading Association (ACA) on Thursday.

Fisher wouldn't confirm how many teams wanted to rescind their participation in the championships.

"There are some teams that did express concerns and made decisions not to attend and we

Al-Shabaab

Al-Shabaab, which means "The Youth" in Arabic, is an al-Qaeda-linked militant group fighting for the creation of a fundamentalist Islamic state.

certainly respect and understand that, but the competition will go on," said Fisher.

Extra security secured by

the ACA will be in place at "designated times," according to an ACA Facebook post.

The cheerleading executive director added that while some teams have concerns over the al-Shabaab comments, parents and teams also showed their support in continuing with the event after police said there is "no imminent threat."

A mall spokesperson said they weren't aware of any future events being changed or cancelled. **STEPHANIE DUBOIS/METRO**

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Calgary Shooting Centre manager Norman Hamilton said while the average gun user to take extra caution when storing and transporting their firearms. **JENNIFER FRIESEN/METRO**

Gun thefts in 1,400% in 5

Home invasions.

Authorities are worried that the stolen guns could be in the hands of criminals

stealing a firearm, but there are instances where guns were specifically targeted.

The fact that these firearms are ending up in the hands of criminals is problematic, Tucker said.

"Who knows the mindset of the person who has those," he said. "Whether or not they intend to use it to commit additional offences, or whether or not it was sold ... with that weapon in the hands of a criminal element, it is a significant concern to law enforcement."

The trend is highlighted just days after Calgary police Chief Rick Hanson said illegal firearms and handguns are one of the biggest challenges facing law-enforcement agencies in Canada.

Tucker explained law enforcement in Alberta are putting an extra focus on firearms, noting ALERT is working with agencies like the Calgary Police Service and the RCMP — including its National Weapons Enforcement Support Team — to try to determine where guns seized dur-



**MORGAN
MODJESKI**

morgan.modjeski@metronews.ca

Law enforcement officials say they've seen a dramatic spike in the number of gun thefts across the province.

The Alberta Law Enforcement Response Teams (ALERT) recorded a total of 154 "incidents of break-and-enter to steal a firearm" in 2013, according to data provided to Metro, compared to only 10 such cases in 2008.

"That number has steadily climbed every single year," said Mike Tucker, a spokesman with ALERT.

He said every break-and-enter on record might not have been primarily aimed at



may not be aware of the recent spike in gun thefts, the information may cause users

Politics

Wildrose to name leader in March

Alberta's Wildrose party has picked March 28 to announce its next leader.

The Wildrose Party had originally planned to hold a leadership vote in June, but it was decided to move that up to be ready for what is being speculated will be a spring election. Telephone balloting is to take place over

12 days beginning March 16 and the winner will be announced at an event in Calgary. Three candidates have announced plans to run: current Wildrose MLA Drew Barnes, former Conservative MP Brian Jean and former Strathcona County mayor Linda Osinchuk.

The leadership vote became necessary when former leader Danielle Smith crossed the floor in December with eight of her caucus colleagues. **THE CANADIAN PRESS**

Crime

Police seek public's help in identifying arson suspect

Calgary police are asking for the public's help in identifying a man they believe may be connected to two arsons in the city's southwest.

On Jan. 1, police said a man approached the

back door of a business at a converted house in the 1700 block of 11 Avenue SW, where they believe he poured a flammable liquid on the building and set it on fire.

The same property was struck again around 3 a.m. on Jan. 20 by two men, one believed to be the same suspect who started the original fire.

For a video of the arsons, visit metronews.ca. **METRO**

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Alberta rose years: ALERT

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"Be careful who you tell that you have firearms."

Brandon MacQueen, who had four firearms and 30 to 40 replica guns stolen in November 2014.

ing drug busts or other crimes are coming from.

Brandon MacQueen, who had four firearms and 30 to 40 replica guns stolen from his home in November 2014, believes he was targeted specifically by thieves looking for weapons.

Now, he's advising other gun enthusiasts to be cautious about what kind of information they release to their friends and the general public.

"A lot of it is just: Be careful," he said. "Be careful who you tell that you have firearms.... It could be as easy as the wrong person sees you walking in and out of your house, two or three times, with a gun case."

MacQueen is an employee at the Calgary Shooting Cen-

tre, which itself was targeted in October 2012 by thieves who made off with dozens of firearms.

The number of guns seized by ALERT has also increased, Tucker said, with 150 guns being taken during the past nine months on record, compared to 149 in the entire previous year.

Norman Hamilton, manager of the Calgary Shooting Centre, said that while the average gun owner may not be aware of the trend, he thinks it could cause people to think harder about how they store their firearms.

"Once those types of information gets to the general community, I would assume that they're going to take ... extra precautions with how they're transporting them (and) how they're storing them," he said.

"Because no one wants to be in that situation."

However, he added, most gun owners go "above and beyond" to ensure their firearms are stored securely.

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Pay-per-use space gives artists a place to work

Arts coLAB. Project manager says new space provides a stable and affordable option



HELEN PIKE
helen.pike@metronews.ca

A new addition to Calgary's collaborative workspace movement is homing in on artists' unique needs — and whether it's a break from the coffee shop, or a place to bring clients, cSPACE and Calgary Arts Development's latest project Arts coLAB is opening doors to creative types looking for creative office solutions.

It's not a new concept, but a uniquely focused collaborative workspace may be exactly what artists in the city need, say those behind the project.

The space — which can be boiled down to a kind of "pay-per-use" office — had its open house two weeks ago and is now accepting memberships.

"We've been set up to address the need for affordable and stable space for the arts in Calgary," Deeter Schurig, project manager with cSPACE, said.

"It's not new, there's other examples in the city.... This is part of a much bigger growing phenomenon."

He added that the Burns

Quoted

"This is part of a much bigger growing phenomenon."

Deeter Schurig, project manager with cSPACE, on Calgary's growing collaborative workspace movement

Building space is acting as a pilot for cSPACE's larger baby, the King Edward School. But this project also has standalone benefits.

"The Arts coLAB is an opportunity to test some of those ideas we have and how to manage these spaces," Schurig said.

"There's a number of different interests in there."

Schurig said there was a lot of interest for the space's open house, but surprisingly

it wasn't just members of the creative community checking out the new digs.

"There's opportunities for small independent entrepreneurs, organizations, freelance designers and artists to be part of a community and have space that gives them access to shared amenities they may not have if they were working in isolation on their own," he said.

For more information visit cspaceprojects.com/arts-colab.



The Arts coLAB space offers working creatives an inexpensive option other than the coffee shop. CONTRIBUTED

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Post-secondary education. CAUS head hopes to pop province's plan to loosen tuition cap



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Increase: 22.6%
- **Nova Scotia**
2010-11: \$5,497
2014-15: \$6,440
Increase: 17.1%
- **New Brunswick**
2010-11: \$5,647
2014-15: \$6,324
Increase: 12%
- **Prince Edward Island**
2010-11: \$5,131

- 2014-15: \$5,857
Increase: 14.1%
• **Alberta**
2010-11: \$5,505
2014-15: \$5,730
Increase: 4%
• **British Columbia**
2010-11: \$4,919
2014-15: \$5,118
Increase: 4%
• **Manitoba**
2010-11: \$3,593
2014-15: \$3,887
Increase: 8.2%

- **Quebec**
2010-11: \$2,411
2014-15: \$2,743
Increase: 13.7%
- **Newfoundland**
2010-11: \$2,619
2014-15: \$2,631
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Roundtable 'a beginning' to national dialogue

One-day gathering.
AFN Chief Perry
Bellegarde views Friday's
talks as the beginning of
a national dialogue

Dawn Harvard says the short amount of time devoted to a long list of speakers and a packed agenda at the national

roundtable on missing and murdered indigenous women Friday need not be an obstacle.

"It only takes a few seconds to say, 'Yes, we will commit X amount of dollars,'" said Harvard, interim president of the Native Women's Association of Canada.

The consensus on just what to do about the fact that, according to the RCMP, about 1,200 aboriginal women and girls have

been murdered or gone missing in Canada in the past three decades, may be harder to come by.

Assembly of First Nations National Chief Perry Bellegarde views the one-day gathering — to focus on prevention and awareness, community safety, policing and the justice system — as the beginning of a national dialogue.

"We never deprive people of hope. It's a beginning. It's a

start," Bellegarde said Thursday, adding there has already been talk of a followup meeting to make sure whatever comes out of the roundtable is implemented.

The Conservative government, which has long resisted the idea of holding a national inquiry into the issue, is likely to focus on the \$25-million action plan it promoted last fall.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



A woman holds a sign during the 25th annual Women's Memorial March on Feb. 14, in Vancouver, B.C. DARRYL DYCK/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Six Quebecers who left country may have been radicalized, reports say

Reports claiming six young Quebecers left the country in mid-January and may have joined jihadist groups in the Middle East prompted a call from public safety officials urging families to contact authorities if they suspect relatives have been radicalized.

Montreal police and other authorities are offering little information about the reports — which first appeared in Montreal La Presse Thursday — that four men and two women from the Montreal area fled Canada to fight with jihadists in Syria.

Federal Public Safety Minister Steven Blaney would not

discuss the case specifically, adding only that the reports highlight the need for the Conservatives' controversial anti-terrorism legislation to be passed.

A well-placed source confirmed that six young men and women between 18 and 20 years old from the Montreal area all left around mid-January and landed in Turkey, which is a well-known gateway to the battlefield of Syria and Iraq where jihadist groups are involved in a civil war.

Montreal Police would only confirm the force is investigating several cases of missing adults. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Strip searches

Quebec education minister quits over controversies

Embattled Quebec Education Minister Yves Bolduc quit politics on Thursday and will return to practising medicine.

Bolduc told reporters he has also resigned his Quebec City-area seat in the provincial legislature in addition to quitting cabinet.

The departure comes following a number of controversies, including a recent one over strip searches at Quebec schools. Bolduc has been a source of embarrassment for the Liberals in recent days.

Last week, Bolduc said strip searches were permitted in Quebec high schools as long as they were conducted in a manner that was "very respectful" to the student. The issue surfaced after a 15-year-old girl told the Journal de Quebec she felt violated after being strip-searched because the school suspected her of selling drugs. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Bill C-279

Changes to transgender rights bill angers activists

Amendments to the transgender rights bill banning trans people from using public washrooms cannot stand, activists say.

Bill C-279, which seeks to add gender identity to the Canadian Human Rights Act, passed the Senate on Wednesday.

But Sen. Donald Plett, a Conservative member of the standing committee reviewing the bill, added an amendment exempting the legislation from applying to "sex-specific" facilities such as public washrooms.

Plett said it is a safety issue. But many say that his concerns are inherently discriminatory.

"To me that is assuming the transgender person is a threat to people, and all that we've worked for, all this legislation is all for naught," said Liberal Sen. Mobina Jaffer.

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The Aeryon SkyRanger flies with a high-resolution video camera during a demonstration of the Michigan State Police's new Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS) on Jan. 15 at the state police training track in Dimondale, Mich. DALE G. YOUNG/THE CANADIAN PRESS, THE ASSOCIATED PRESS, DETROIT NEWS

Drone arms race brewing over prisons

Security. Nova Scotia prison looks for ways to keep airspace clear of unfriendly aircraft

One of Canada's newest jails is researching the use of detection technology to prevent the invasion of the drug-bearing drones that have plagued some North American prisons.

Tim Carroll, superintendent of the Northeast Nova Scotia Correctional Facility, said staff are examining ways to prevent unmanned aerial vehicles from lowering contraband into the jail's airing yards in a rural area north of Truro.

"We're looking at both obtaining our own drones for ... perimeter checks and verifying surveillance in and around our correctional facility and, in addition to that, detecting drones which are not government operated and that may pose a threat to the facility," he said in an interview.

Incidents recorded in South Carolina and Quebec in the past two years prompted Carroll's interest as he worked on plans for the 100-cell jail, which opened on Feb. 8.

He said that readily available, higher-end drones are capable of video reconnaissance — another threat that has to be considered.

A drone detection company says it has received inquiries from provincial governments as incidents involving drones over jails become more prevalent.

Boris Defreville, chief of operations for French-based Orelia Inc., said his firm is one of a few competing in the new drone detection market.

Sensors made by the company, which cost about \$3,000 each, lock onto the sound of whirring drone blades, while competitors' devices lock in on Wi-Fi frequencies, use radar or employ infrared cameras, he said.

Defreville said jails are taking a cautious approach to actually buying products.

"Right now everybody is trying to understand what is the best solution to detect drones," he said.

Andrew Preeper of Nova Scotia's Justice Department said there hasn't been a recorded incident of a drone entering prison airspace in the province.

Meanwhile, drone detectors are just part of an array of technology aimed at keeping drugs out of jails, said Carroll, who has asked for approval to buy a body scanner worth more than \$200,000 to keep contraband out of the jail in Priestville.

Body scanners are widely used in U.S. jails to detect everything from knives to pill boxes hidden in body cavities or other body parts.

Carroll said smuggled drugs undermine rehabilitation programs, cause more violence and lead to prison searches that confine inmates to their cells.

"Most incidents in facilities across Canada can be linked back to the introduction ... of contraband," he said.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

D-Day strategist dies at age 101

Ernest Cote, a celebrated Canadian veteran of D-Day who lived a storied life on and off the battlefield, has died at the age of 101.

Cote was remembered fondly Thursday by Prime Minister Stephen Harper and senior cabinet members, but also by historians like Serge Durlinger, who said the former soldier led a rarefied life of adventure and accomplishment.

"It is the humility I will remember the most," said Durlinger, who teaches at the University of Ottawa and was a friend of Cote's for 15 years. "He was always giving others the credit."

As a lieutenant-colonel, Cote was a senior planner for the invasion of Normandy and the logistics officer with the 3rd Canadian Division, which landed on Juno Beach on June 6, 1944.

Cote was made a member of the Most Excellent Order of the British Empire by King George VI, an honour that was on display in the hallway of his Ottawa home for the rest of his life.

Following the war, he went on to have a distinguished career in the federal government as a diplomat and later a senior official, participating in the first meetings for the United Nations General Assembly in

London, New York and Paris and helping to draft the charter of the World Health Organization.

Cote was deputy solicitor general during the FLQ crisis in 1970 and deeply involved in the response to the terrorist front.

Cote also personally knew every prime minister, from Mackenzie King to Pierre Trudeau.

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Argentina. Judge dismisses allegations against president

A federal judge on Thursday firmly dismissed allegations that Argentine President Cristina Fernandez tried to cover up the involvement of Iranian officials in the 1994 bombing of a Jewish centre, easing a crisis for her government fed by the death of the prosecutor who brought the case.

Judge Daniel Rafecas said the documents originally filed by the late prosecutor Alberto Nisman failed to meet "the minimal conditions needed to launch a formal court investigation."

"There is not a single element of evidence, even circumstantial, that points to

the actual head of state," the judge said.

Nisman had filed the complaint just days before he died on Jan. 18 under mysterious circumstances. Polls show many Argentines suspect officials had some hand in the death, though Fernandez and aides have suggested the death was actually aimed at destabilizing her government.

While the decision can be appealed, the judge's scathing wording appears to substantiate government insistence that Nisman's case was baseless, though his death still casts a shadow across the administration.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Afghanistan

Avalanche toll rises to 165 amid rescue efforts

The number of people killed in a massive avalanche in a mountain-bound valley in northeastern Afghanistan

rose on Thursday to 165 as lack of equipment and the sheer depth of snow that buried entire homes and families hampered rescue efforts.

The Afghan army deployed 1,000 soldiers from the Kabul Corps to the Panjshir Valley, to help in the rescue efforts.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

ISIL seizes more Christians, smashes ancient artifacts

Iraq and Syria. More than 220 abducted, according to activists

ISIL militants seized more Christians from their homes in northeastern Syria in the past three days, bringing the total number abducted by the extremist group to more than 220, activists said Thursday.

At the same time, the extremists also released a video showing the continued destruction of the heritage of the lands under their control. It depicted men using sledgehammers to smash ancient Mesopotamian statues and other artifacts in Iraq's northern city of Mosul.

The video, coinciding with mounting fears over the fate of the captive Christian Assyrians in Syria, sent a fresh wave of dread across the region, particularly among minorities who feel

targeted by the group.

"Daesh is wiping Assyrian heritage in Mosul, and at the same time wiping them geographically from the face of the Earth," said Osama Edward, director of the Assyrian Network for Human Rights in Syria. He referred to the ISIL by its Arabic acronym.

About 200 Assyrians and other Christians gathered in a church east of Beirut in solidarity with the victims in Syria and Iraq. Some cried openly.

One man held a banner that read: "We will not surrender, we will not be broken." A few young men said they were preparing to go to Syria to fight and help their brethren defend their homes against ISIL.

The destruction of artifacts in the Mosul museum is part of a campaign by ISIL extremists who have destroyed a number of shrines — including Muslim holy sites — to eliminate what



In this image made Thursday from video posted on a social media account affiliated with the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant, a militant topples an ancient artifact in the Ninevah Museum in Mosul, Iraq. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

they view as heresy. They also are believed to have sold ancient artifacts on the black market in order to finance their bloody campaign in the region.

In the video released Thursday, militants used sledgehammers and drills to smash and destroy several

large statues, which are then shown chipped and in pieces. The five-minute video also shows a black-clad man at an archaeological site in Mosul, drilling through and destroying a winged-bull — an Assyrian protective deity — that dates to the 7th century B.C. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Ezra Levant crowdfunding new media venture

Ezra Levant, the former Sun TV personality, is taking to crowdfunding to help back his new media venture, The Rebel. According to the outspoken host's website, he has already raised roughly \$100,000 for new equipment and more than \$15,000 a month in ongoing contributions to pay for the site's operations. Levant said the money, which is being deposited into a PayPal account, has come from about 2,000 individual contributors.

PAWEŁ DWULITZ/THE CANADIAN PRESS

U.S. watchdog bans ISPs from slowing web traffic

Net neutrality.

FCC's 3-2 vote ushers in a new era of government oversight

Internet activists declared victory over the big cable companies in the U.S. Thursday, after the Federal Communications Commission voted to impose the toughest rules yet on broadband providers like Comcast, Verizon and AT&T to prevent them from creating paid fast lanes and slowing or blocking web traffic.

The 3-2 vote represents the biggest regulatory shakeup to telecommunications providers in two decades.

The new rules require that any company providing

CRTC

Canada led way, says crusader

Canada has always regulated the Internet as a utility, which has made it somewhat easier for the CRTC to step in.

"They're sort of bringing their rules more or less with what we've got," said Ben Klass, a Carleton grad student whose own crusade

against service providers charging in full for YouTube or other videos, but discounting their own, led to the CRTC issuing a landmark decision in favour of net neutrality in January.

Klass met with FCC commissioner Mignon Clyburn in October to discuss the Canada context. "What's been happening in Canada is actually a good indicator of how this might play out in the States," Klass said.

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

but the agency's legal approach was struck down in the courts. The vote Thursday was intended to erase any legal ambiguity by no longer classifying the Internet as an "information service" but a "telecommunications service" subject to Title II of the 1934 Communications Act. That would dramatically expand regulators' power and hold broadband providers to the higher standard of operating in the public interest.

The FCC says it won't apply some sections, including price controls.

That means rates for Internet access won't be subject to preapproval. But the law allows the government to investigate if consumers complain.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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AND: DON TROTCHIE (Defendant)

To: DON TROTCHIE

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Public payphones

CRTC cracks down on cord-cutters

The Canadian Radio-television and Telecommunications Commission is proposing to tighten the rules companies must follow when they cut the cord on the last public phone in a community.

The CRTC wants firms to notify communities affected before removing the last public phone and also before removing a phone where wireless service is not available.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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VOICES

THIS IS WHY WE CAN'T DO NICE THINGS



THE KOHLER
REPORT
By Rebecca Kohler

My mother used to say, "This is why we can't have nice things" after I'd done something stupid like putting a wet cup on an antique table — leaving a ring, wrecking the table. I was reminded of this phrase the day after the Oscars as social media — especially Slate and Vox — pulsed with scorn for Patricia Arquette. She had given us something nice and we put wet cups all over it.

On Sunday, after winning the Oscar for Best Supporting Actress for her performance in *Boyhood*, Arquette ended her acceptance speech by demanding equal pay and equal rights for women in the United States. The crowd cheered and Meryl Streep and Jennifer Lopez had a simultaneous orgasm. It was a great moment and then Patricia Arquette went backstage.

In the press room, Arquette was asked to elaborate on her statement and here's where things got sticky: "It's time for all the women in America and all the men who love women and all the gay people and all the people of colour that we've fought for, to fight for us now."

Let no good deed go unpunished

Patricia Arquette tried to do a nice thing, but apparently, we can't have nice things today.

Ugh.

So, a lot of people took this to mean that Arquette thinks LGBTQ and people of colour have full equality themselves and that they now need to step up and help women. While the phrase may have been poorly worded — I'm surprised people can speak at all seconds after winning an Oscar — I think what Arquette meant was that we're all in this together. I don't believe she was trying to be exclusionary by mentioning those groups. I think if we put her and her speech into a benefit-of-the-doubt context, she was trying to be inclusive.

Patricia Arquette tried to do a nice thing, but apparently, we can't have nice things today.

Remember the Ice Bucket Challenge? The awareness campaign for the disease ALS raised over \$16 million dollars in Canada (over \$130 million worldwide). It was a nice

thing. But during the height of this cold, wet, philanthropic trend, I saw post after post on Facebook about how it was "a waste of water" or "just an opportunity for dumb girls to show off their bikini bodies." An article in *Maclean's* said something to the tune of "there are more important diseases" (is this some kind of really unpleasant competition?) and a dim friend of mine protested that half the people doing it weren't even donating. OK, but what about the ones that WERE?

In the art of improv (as in improvisation), when you're working with other people, there's a rule called "Yes, and." The idea is that you take what your partner gives you and build upon it: "Let's adopt a dragon!" "Yes! AND use its breath as a BBQ."

You use each other's contributions as building blocks to construct a scene. It's an im-

prov sin to say "no" because "no" stops the scene in its tracks; if everyone said no, there would be no scene.

It seems to me that we are a society of "no." Patricia Arquette says she wants equality for women. "No, because she said it the wrong way." I want to raise money for ALS. "No, because it's wasteful. Now excuse me while I flush the toilet after my tiny pee."

Patricia Arquette is not the enemy. In this case the enemy is patriarchy and bigwigs on Wall Street and that's a whole other can of worms. But we're making it a lot easier for the enemy to continue to get its way by distracting ourselves with the imperfections of our own teammates.

If you see something good that you think could be better, why not say "Yes, and!" and build upon it?

Rebecca Kohler is a standup comic, writer, actor, gymnast, lawyer and chemist. (Some of this isn't true.) Follow her on Twitter at @becca_kohler



Happy face/Sad face

From imbibing bears to pernicious pundits, Metro weighs in on the news that made headlines this week:



DON'T PLY THE BEARS

Two bears that were being kept in a small, filthy cage outside a restaurant in Sochi, Russia, have been confiscated and are being treated for alcoholism. The animals got hooked on booze because visitors kept giving them beer. A sanctuary in Romania has offered to take them in.



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THE OH-REILLY FACTOR

Bill O'Reilly, the Fox News pundit we all love to hate, is the latest journalist facing heat for inflating (or straight-up lying?) about experiences in his early reporting days in South America. O'Reilly claimed — among other things — to have seen nuns being executed in El Salvador. But skeptics point out his timeline doesn't make sense.



FLOYD + VIOLET FOREVER

The hottest hot of the week shoutout goes to the late Floyd and Violet Hartwig of Fresno, Calif., who died holding hands. The two met at a dance hall while he was on leave from the Navy. During their 67-year marriage, people often commented on their deep connection. When the family sensed they were ready to leave this world, they pushed their beds together. Floyd went first and Violet followed him five hours later. Rest in peace, Mr. and Mrs. Hartwig.



CHEATERS WIN

Recognizing that legalizing something is not the same as endorsing it, South Korea has stopped criminalizing adultery. No longer will children play boisterous games of "cops and cheaters," and John Updike books will now be moved out of the Crime Thriller section of South Korean bookstores.



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A backstage peek at the CSAs

Awards show. Metro's movie man Richard Crouse shares his most memorable moments covering Canada's biggest awards show

Everybody knows what happens on stage at a big show like this Sunday's Canadian Screen Awards.

A host sings, dances and/or tells jokes, glamorous presenters tear open envelopes and announce award winners who thank everyone from managers to spouses to Jesus. There's the slapping of backs, bespoke tuxedos and flowing gowns and tears.

Add in some drama, a red carpet and you have the ingredients of a big awards show, but what happens backstage?

Lots, as it turns out.

Every year at the Canadian Screen Awards there's a whole other show that happens offstage in the pressroom. Located deep in the bowels of the Sony Centre for the Performing Arts, it is my domain during the live broadcast.

I host the room, interviewing the winners as they come off stage in front of an "audience" made up of local and national reporters, there for the free food and access to the celebs.

I am the purveyor of sound bites, the compère to the press who take the interviews I do and turn them into stories for the next day's papers and newscasts.

Over the years Elvis Costello, Tatiana Maslany, William Shatner and many



Fresh from her Oscar win, Julianne Moore is set to attend the Canadian Screen Awards this weekend. Moore, who is nominated for her role in David Cronenberg's *Maps To The Stars*, will be among the presenters during the show, televised on CBC Sunday. CONTRIBUTED

In Focus

RICHARD CROUSE



others have passed through, tossing out bon mots like they were candy. Jay Baruchel let it slip he was engaged to Alison Pill on our small stage. Viggo Mortensen proudly waved the Montreal Canadiens flag in the face of a roomful of Leafs fans and Jill Hennessey gushed about the Canadian Screen Awards gift bag, thanking the Academy for the Norman Jewison Maple Syrup. It's an easy gig for

me. Everyone who comes down from the main stage is a winner, automatically in a good mood and ready to have some fun.

When Lifetime Achievement Award winner David Cronenberg was asked where the inspiration for his movies came from he took a moment to examine the assembled crowd of journalists before deadpanning, "Just standing here is giving me all kinds of ideas for horror films."

Call Me Fitz star Tracy Dawson picked up a CSA for best actress but later told me that awards don't guar-

Richard's ratings

Focus

.....

The Lazarus Effect

.....

Elephant Song

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Big News From Grand Rock

.....

antee work.

She won a Gemini in 2011 for playing Meghan Fitzpatrick on the show and thought she had it made. Then her phone didn't ring for ten months.

In the pressroom she joked that she wanted to be clear — she was looking for work. "I'm totally available," she laughed.

It's a different show downstairs, less glitzy and more relaxed.

This year Andrea Martin is taking over hosting duties from fellow-SCTVer Martin Short but I'll never forget last year how Short tore up the pressroom, still jacked up from hosting the show.

He was hilarious when I asked if he'd try and top his spectacular flying entrance next year. "I can only fly so many times," he said.

"That harness chafes."

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Tracy Mantler

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2 SCENE

Orphan Black early Screen Award darling

CSAs. Sci-fi series takes home eight awards in pre-show presentation, while another big nominee, police drama 19-2, goes away empty-handed

The sci-fi clone saga Orphan Black heads into this weekend's Canadian Screen Awards with a leading eight wins under its belt.

The Space TV series collected the trophies at an early awards ceremony Wednesday, which handed out hardware in most of the television categories.

MuchMusic and MTV's Degrassi also scored big with four wins, while CBC-TV's The Rick Mercer Report and HBO Canada's Sensitive Skin each collected three.

Orphan Black entered the race with a leading 13 nominations, tied with the Xavier Dolan film



Orphan Black star Tatiana Maslany is looking to repeat her win for best actress at the CSAs this Sunday.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

Mommy.

Dolan and his fellow film nominees won't learn their fates until Sunday, when a non-televised ceremony will hand out most of the film awards.

A star-studded televised bash on Sunday night, hosted by comedy star Andrea Martin, will feature

the marquee TV and film awards.

The show is set to air on CBC-TV.

Early wins for Orphan Black included best casting, directing and writing as well as a supporting actor trophy for Jordan Gavaris for his turn as the flamboyant Felix.

Gavaris won the same category last year.

Series star Tatiana Maslany — who has wowed critics for deftly tackling a slew of disparate cloned characters — will seek a repeat win for best actress on Sunday's televised ceremony, while the show competes for best dramatic



Xavier Dolan's film Mommy entered the CSA race with a leading 13 nominations.
THE CANADIAN PRESS

series against Bravo's 19-2, Showcase's Continuum, CTV's Motive, and Global's Remedy.

Meanwhile, critically acclaimed cop drama 19-2 came up empty-handed Wednesday, despite entering the race with 10 nominations overall.

It's up for two final trophies

Sunday, including best drama and best actor for Jared Keeso.

East Coast comic Jonathan Torrens claimed the sole win Wednesday for CBC-TV's sitcom Mr. D, which also had 10 nominations overall.

Torrens earned the trophy for his featured sup-

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Robert Pattinson is nominated for best supporting actor for his role in David Cronenberg's *Maps to the Stars*. CONTRIBUTED

porting role as kooky vice-principal Cheele.

The school-set sitcom will seek the best comedy title Sunday against TMN/Movie Central's *Call Me Fitz*, City's *Seed*, CTV's *Spun Out*, and Super Channel's *Tiny Plastic Men*.

Star Gerry Dee is also still up for best comic lead

actor, against Adam Korson of City's *Seed*, Don McKellar of *Sensitive Skin*, Dave Foley of CTV's *Spun Out*, and Mark Meer of Super Channel's *Tiny Plastic Men*.

Sunday promises to include some Hollywood star wattage with recent Oscar winner Julianne Moore,

Alternative categories

Real life gets rewarded

So far, *The Amazing Race Canada* is having an amazing run at the Canadian Screen Awards.

The second season of the popular CTV reality series claimed three trophies at an early awards show Tuesday, which recognized the best in documentary, reality, lifestyle, news, sports and digital media categories. It included wins for best direction, picture editing and writing. The best reality show trophy will be handed out Sunday. The documentary prizes were split between TMN/Movie Central's *Our Man in Tehran*, which took five

who is set to present an award.

She's also competing in the best actress category for her turn as an aging starlet in David Cronenberg's *Maps to the Stars*.

She's up against Ahn Ji Hye and Yoon Da Kyung, both for *In Her Place*, Julianne Cote for *Tu dors Nicole*, and Anne Dorval for *Mommy*.

awards including best doc and direction, and History Channel's *Tales from the Organ Trade*, which claimed four, including best writing and the Donald Britton Award for best social/political doc. Winners in the news categories included Global National for best national newscast, CBC's *The Fifth Estate* for best news or information program, CTV's *W5* journalist Tom Kennedy for best host or interviewer in a news or information program or series, and CTV News journalist Janis Mackey Frayer for best national reportage. The prize for best live sports event went to CBC's coverage of the Olympic women's gold medal hockey game.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Ken Taylor, Canada's former ambassador to Iran, in *Our Man in Tehran*, which won best doc at an early CSAs presentation. CONTRIBUTED

Meanwhile, the best actor competition pits Ryan Reynolds from *The Captive* against Bruce Greenwood for *Elephant Song*, Michael Murphy for *Fall*, Evan Bird for *Maps To The Stars* and Antoine Olivier Pilon for *Mommy*.

The supporting actor category includes John Cusack and Robert Pattinson, each for *Maps To The Stars*,

as well as Justin Chatwin for *Bang Bang Baby*, Marc-Andre Grondin for *Tu dors Nicole* and Kris Demeanor for *The Valley Below*.

The supporting actress race includes Sandrine Bisson for *1987*, Kil Hae Yeon for *In Her Place*, Mia Wasikowska for *Maps To The Stars*, Suzanne Clement for *Mommy* and Catherine

St-Laurent for *Tu dors Nicole*.

Cronenberg's dark comedy boasts 11 nominations but faces stiff competition from *Mommy*, which recently beat Richard Linklater's *Boyhood* and Wes Anderson's *The Grand Budapest Hotel* to be crowned best foreign film at France's Cesar Awards.

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What it's like to be the belle — and beau — of the ball

Film. As women are too often cast to support a male lead, actress Portia Doubleday is excited to play both genders

STEVE
GOW
scene@metronews.ca

Portia Doubleday was so tired of taking on trite female roles, the actress decided to play both a woman and a man in her latest movie.

In *After the Ball*, the Hollywood-based actress of such cinematic hits as *Carrie* and *Her* plays Kate, a determined young fashion designer that transforms herself into Nate — a brash, bespectacled style-sensation — in order to land a cushy couturier job.

"I definitely find that in many scripts, I'm so deterred by female characters

Northern exposure

Doubleday on filming in Montreal

- "I don't know if it's just a Canadian thing but the nature of people in Canada is just overwhelmingly wonderful," said Doubleday. "The crew was incredible and that was so great, it just kind of lends itself to creativity. You just feel more comfortable."



Portia Doubleday plays Kate, as well as Nate, in *After the Ball*. CONTRIBUTED

that are written to fill this supporting role to a male lead," said Doubleday from Los Angeles ahead of the film's upcoming release.

"The linear nature of having to be this machine as opposed to the central character and being complex ... I'm attracted to roles that push the limit of that border."

For Doubleday, the border-pushing dual-role also meant the budding star had to convincingly portray a different gender.

While finding the character of Kate was exercise enough, learning to play a man proved an entirely new challenge.

"It took me a long time,"

admitted Doubleday. "(But) it just started to come together with the wardrobe, honestly."

"I had to wear this body suit and I couldn't bend; I had to be constantly upright. It's amazing — with that kind of posture, you instantly become a different person."

While the comedic practice of switching identities may not be altogether pioneering (see classics like *Tootsie* or *Some Like it Hot*, for starters), *After the Ball* does take the premise to a new plateau by enveloping the twist into a Cinderella story — just the latest adaptation that has tailored itself on

the 17th-century classic.

"It just never gets old," explained Doubleday of the narrative's endurance.

"The reason why I was so attracted to this version of a Cinderella story is — the guys don't save Cinderella in the end, she saves herself, and I think that's the beautiful message of this movie."

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PC Alberta PROGRESSIVE CONSERVATIVE ASSOCIATION NOTICE OF CALGARY-VARSITY NOMINATION MEETING

The Calgary-Varsity PC Association is seeking nominations for individuals interested in becoming the candidate to represent the constituency and the Progressive Conservative Association of Alberta in the next provincial election. The nomination period to obtain information, complete the nomination papers, and pay the nomination fee will commence Saturday, February 28, 2015 and will close at 2:00 pm on Saturday, March 14, 2015. The nomination vote (if necessary) will be held from 10:00 am to 3:00 pm on March 28th at Banff Trail Community Hall, 2115 20th Ave. N.W. Voters shall be members in good standing of the PCAA, must ordinarily reside in Calgary-Varsity, be a Canadian citizen, and be at least 14 years of age. When voting, members must show PCAA Membership card, and two (2) pieces of identification, at least one of which must be government issued photo identification. The boundaries of the Calgary Varsity electoral district include the communities of Brentwood, a portion of Capital Hill, Collingwood, Dalhousie, Montgomery, University Heights and Varsity. Interested parties may obtain further information, nomination papers and details of the nomination process from the Nomination Chairperson, Jim McCormick at 403-815-4293.

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The Power to Surprise

Donald Glover's trying to keep you on your toes

Playing against type.

You might know him from *Community*, or his work as the rapper Childish Gambino, but now he's in horror flick *The Lazarus Effect*



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Metro in Hollywood

Donald Glover doesn't like to be pigeonholed. In fact, he's crafting his career specifically to keep you guessing. His latest move? Starring alongside Olivia Wilde, Mark Duplass, Evan Peters and Sarah Bolger in *The Lazarus Effect*, a thriller from the leading producer of economically minded horror, Jason Blum.

This wasn't a very long shoot, was it?

It was fast as f—. A couple of weeks. It was very fast, very hard — which I like. I like the Blumhouse model. Not necessarily because it's fast, but because everybody's doing

it because they're passionate. I think this would've been a very different movie if everyone was like, "I'm just doing this for the cheque." No one was doing it for the cheque. There's no cheque yet. It's really just, "I want to hang with Olivia, Mark and Evan and Sarah. And learn from Jason."

When you meet someone like Jason Blum, what do you pick his brain about first?

I mean, to be real, I just kind of watch. I like to observe a lot more just because you learn more. I feel like people put things on questions a little bit, like what is this person trying to get from me? So I just watched, and he's a real creative. He's a good decision-maker, and he really understands what makes something intrinsically watchable. And he fights for the creatives, which is cool.

Is this the type of movie you've been wanting to do for a while?

I mean, yeah. I think a lot of people just would have expected me to do a bunch of



Actor and rapper Donald Glover, a.k.a. Childish Gambino, tells Metro he doesn't like to be boxed in. That's one of the reasons why he took on a "hard genre" film: *The Lazarus Effect*. GETTY IMAGES FILE

indie films, which is cool and I like that stuff and I have a lot of friends who do indie films, but I was like, you know, let's go for a hard genre film. It was kind of the opposite of everything. I always try to make

people not see me one way. I feel like once that happens, you're boxed in and you can't really explore anything else. Not to say that's bad — that's good for somebody who is that. But not for me.

Since you have so many different things going on, do you find you run into fans who only really know one thing, like Childish Gambino or Community?

People don't really use confu-

Quoted

"The honest truth is, if you want me to be one-dimensional, it's super-easy to do that. Clay Aiken could be the biggest star in the world on your timeline if you only follow that s—." Donald Glover

sion like they should. Life is confusing. I'm not linear, and also I don't find it interesting when actors or celebrities are one thing, like one-dimensional. I want people to have to have a discussion about it. It's cool to have a show and have everybody there and have people look around like, "Why is there like a 40-year-old black guy here and a 13-year-old white girl here? And he's kind of a hipster, and he seems like a city kid." It's because there's an honesty, I think, and also it's confusing. Because that's real life. So I try to just stay honest in that sense and have people have to do the work for themselves.

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Olivia Wilde takes a stab at low-budget horror

Casting. Actress has done medical dramas and science fiction, but in *The Lazarus Effect* she kicks it up a notch by trying to bring back the dead

MATT PRIGGE
Metro in New York City

Olivia Wilde has played computer programs (*Iron: Legacy*) and an alien (in a movie for which this would be a spoiler), but in real life she's personable, talkative and friendly. She gets to play both sides of the fence in *The Lazarus Effect*, a low-budget horror in which she's a brilliant scientist experimenting with a serum that can bring the dead back to life — one that winds up being used on her when she's accidentally killed, with horrific consequences.

You've said you're very analytical when it comes to scripts. How did that apply to this project?

I tend to get really analytical with the material. My nickname on a few films has been *The Logic Police*. Even with this film, where logic seemingly should not count, I still held everyone to the rules we established. That's how I view films. When I watch something, I will buy anything. Any kind of story you want to give me I'm happy to watch — as long as it's consistent with the rules you lay out.

A lot of horror films about scientists tend to be anti-science, but this walks a fine line of being respectful of scientists and wary of some of the deeply flawed and all-too-human actions some characters take.

We didn't want it to seem horribly irresponsible of them. It clearly comes from a passionate place. If you think about how much has been developed in 50 years, it's insane. Triple bypass surgeries happen on a daily basis today; we're used to hearing about people surviving. If you went back and told your great-grandparents that, they'd think you were insane. The idea of a Lazarus serum is not completely off-base. We imagined it would be used to keep someone alive or bring them back to life as they flatline during a surgery, let's say — that you just need



Olivia Wilde appears in a scene from *The Lazarus Effect*.

DANIEL MCFADDEN/RELATIVITY MEDIA

On motherhood and acting

How much has becoming a mother changed your acting?

- “You can't tell when you watch the movie, but there were three shoots we did where I am 8 1/2 months pregnant. I didn't expect to be working at that stage of pregnancy. But in fact, it was kind of awesome, because my emotions were so close to the surface. I felt capable of anything, any human emotion, from misery to rage to extreme happiness. It's an amazing thing that happens with pregnancy and with motherhood. Since having my son, I feel I'm a better actress. But yeah, I was doing some shots with this huge belly. You'll notice me sometimes saying my lines over my shoulder in a weird way. (Laughs) That would be why.”

them to stay alive so you can finish the procedure. That's how we made sense to it. That probably is in the works, because there are things that have been developed to keep a heart pumping during surgery. There's all sorts of technology to keep our bodies moving when they're being taken apart. Having that logical basis to start from was important to me.

Does that come from playing a doctor on *House* for five years?

Yeah. I really love learning about medical technology, and I have such an enormous respect for doctors. They're superheroes. I wanted to make sure we didn't portray them as horribly irresponsible. I wanted to show they were coming from a good place and that it went horribly wrong. Science is not the enemy. It's human beings who mess up. It's hubris, as always, that leads us to disaster.

A project like this prob-

ably leads to some freaky research.

Oh my god, YouTube is always a place where I wind up in deep, deep holes at four in the morning. You can find anything there. I watched a lot of surgeries. I read a lot about the concept of bringing someone back to life versus keeping people alive, about extending life. I read a few dozen cases of people who flatlined during surgery and came back, and what they claimed to have experienced.

This is a horror film that's not stocked with typically horror film actors. You have Mark Duplass, who does indies, Donald Glover, who's synonymous with comedy, and yourself.

People mostly enjoy watching actors who are not known for horror because maybe they relate to them in a way that puts them in the scary situation the characters are in. It adds to the unpredictability of what horror can do. It's about misdirection.

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Playing a dangerous game in Elephant Song

Thriller. As offers come pouring in, seasoned actor recalls soon-to-open film he shot two years prior

STEVE GOW
scene@metronews.ca

Bruce Greenwood is a busy actor who has spent much of the last year on set, away from his Los Angeles home.

"Yesterday I found myself reading a script," he says of a rare day off. "I was lying on the couch and I put the script down and fell asleep in the sun. I woke up an hour later and said to my wife, 'We're home. I'm lying on the couch. I could

get up and make tea but I don't have to. My bag is not packed.'"

When he isn't on set the actor, best known as Christopher Pike in the rebooted Star Trek series, occupies himself in the kitchen.

"I'm baking bread," he says. "It's my new thing. I'm making at least a couple of baguettes a day. Usually I make three in a batch, give

two to the neighbours and force the other one on my wife."

In the new psychological thriller *Elephant Song* — just one of four movies he has in the pipeline — Greenwood as hospital chief of staff Dr. Toby Green is lured into a cat-and-mouse game with Michael, a long-time patient played by Xavier Dolan, who may know the

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Bruce Greenwood, right, plays hospital chief of staff Dr. Toby Green opposite Xavier Dolan in *Elephant Song*. CONTRIBUTED

Authentic encounter

He decided that when the two characters meet in the film for the first time it might be interesting that, as actors, we were meeting for the first time while the cameras were rolling.

Bruce Greenwood

thought, 'Well, that's a bit of extra lifting I don't think is really necessary.' But he really wanted to try it so I said, 'OK.' When he walked into the room all this stuff started pouring through my system that I couldn't have anticipated. It turned out to be a great idea."

Greenwood has been so busy, he had to rely on journalists to refresh his memory about *Elephant Song*, a movie he shot almost two years ago.

"It is one of those things where if you are doing 10 interviews in a row, the first two interviewers get the short end of the stick because during the interviews you're reminded of what the film was about. By the third interview, 20 minutes in, you remember what it was about the film that excited you and interested you and challenged you. Today after the first couple of interviews I hung up the phone and thought, 'God, those poor people must think I'm an idiot.'"

whereabouts of a missing doctor.

Greenwood hadn't met his co-star and Dolan wanted to keep it that way — at least until they shot their first scene.

"He had a great idea early on, which serves to illustrate how willing he is to experiment," says Greenwood. "He decided that when the two characters meet in the film for the first time it might be interesting that, as actors, we were meeting for the first time while the cameras were rolling. I kind of

Now in theatres

Ratings and synopses courtesy of Rotten Tomatoes. For more movie reviews, trailers and news go to RottenTomatoes.com.

Ratings: Certified Fresh: 🍌 Fresh: 🍌 Rotten: 🍌 Audience response: 🍌 Audience anticipation for the film: +

Comedy/International



After The Ball

Director. Sean Garrity

Stars. Portia Doubleday, Chris Noth

Kate's dream is to design for couturier houses. Although she is a bright new talent, Kate can't get a job. No one trusts the daughter of Lee Kassell, a retail guru who markets clothes "inspired" by the very designers Kate wants to work for. Reluctantly, Kate joins the family business where she must navigate around her duplicitous stepmother and two wicked sisters.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
No reviews yet + 61%

Drama/Comedy



Focus

Director. John Requa, Glenn Ficarra

Stars. Will Smith, Rodrigo Santoro

A con artist (Will Smith) takes on an inexperienced apprentice in this crime comedy from the filmmaking duo behind Crazy Stupid Love: Glenn Ficarra and John Requa.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
No reviews yet + 95%

Horror



The Lazarus Effect

Director. David Gelb

Stars. Olivia Wilde, Mark Duplass

The Lazarus Effect follows a group of researchers led by Frank (Mark Duplass) and his fiancée Zoe (Olivia Wilde), who've achieved the unimaginable — bringing the dead back to life. After a successful, yet unsanctioned, trial on a newly deceased animal, the team is ready to unveil their breakthrough to the world.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
No reviews yet 🍌 64%

Documentary



Red Army

Director. Gabe Polsky

Stars. Scotty Bowman, Mark Deakins

Red Army is a feature documentary about the Soviet Union and the most successful dynasty in sports history: the Red Army hockey team. Told from the perspective of its captain Slava Fetisov, the story portrays his transformation from national hero to political enemy. From the USSR to Russia, the film examines how sport mirrors social and cultural movements.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
🍌 96% + 85%

Drama



McFarland

Director. Niki Caro

Stars. Kevin Costner, Carlos Pratt

From Disney comes McFarland, the true against-all-odds story of the 1987 McFarland high school cross-country team in an economically challenged community.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
🍌 78% 🍌 91%

Comedy



The DUFF

Director. Ari Sandel

Stars. Mae Whitman, Robbie Amell

Bianca is a high school senior whose world is shattered when she learns the student body knows her as "The DUFF" (Designated Ugly Fat Friend) to her prettier, more popular friends. Now, despite the words of caution from her favourite teacher, she puts aside the potential distraction of her crush and enlists Wesley, a slick but charming jock, to help reinvent herself.

Rotten Tomatoes™ score
Critics: Audience:
🍌 64% 🍌 77%

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All the news that's really not fit to print

Canadian film. Big News from Grand Rock is a tale of newsroom fabulism starring two Pinsents and a Keleghan

RICHARD CROUSE
scene@metronews.ca

For several of the stars of Big News from Grand Rock, the film was a family affair.

"Peter and I were asked to do it first," says Leah Pinsent of her husband and co-star Peter Keleghan, "and I didn't even know Dad was going to be part of it."

Dad, of course, is acting icon Gordon Pinsent.

"Because it is a small independent movie we were all put up at the Super 8 Motel," says Leah. "I said, 'You have an opportunity where the three of us are family and we're right next to Georgian Bay so why don't you give us the cash for the Super 8 and we'll rent a cottage. So we



The cast of Big News from Grand Rock. Leah Pinsent is on the right, Gordon Pinsent is second from right, and Leah's husband, Peter Keleghan, is second from left. CONTRIBUTED

actually made it into quite a nice summer affair. Brought

the dog and walked along the beach. It was pretty cool."

In the movie, Ennis Esmer stars as Leonard Crane, editor

Elevator pitch: Make a movie out of a headline

We flipped the movie's premise on Leah and Peter, asking them to take a recent headline and turn it into a movie pitch, complete with casting.

- Peter Keleghan suggested, "Harper kills Sun TV by mistake but CBC thrives!" As for casting he says, "John Baird is looking for a job so he would play Ezra Levant. Tom Green would be Pierre-Karl Péladeau and Raymond Burr, as he is today, would co-star as Steven Harper."

- Leah Pinsent chose,

"Woman gives birth in first class airport lounge while waiting for flight" as her headline. "In this particular version she doesn't have a business class ticket so they make her pay the entrance fee as her water bursts," she says. "The person behind the desk would be me and the woman having the baby would be me. The woman with the cart, serving food who helps birth the baby would also be me. And the baby, of course, would be me."

of the Grand Rock Weekly Ledger, a small-town newspaper on the verge of bankruptcy. With no local news to draw from, Leonard turns to the town's video store for inspiration. In the hope of pumping up circulation and advertising revenues, he fabricates a series of wild "news"

stories based on the plots of old movies.

Leah Pinsent co-stars as the town's mayor, a part she says she based on Pamela Wallin and Rob Ford, while Keleghan is a dim-witted reporter employed by the paper's embattled publisher played by Gordon.

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On *Madam Secretary*, Tea Leoni plays a woman of strength, charm and forbearance juggling obligations as a world figure, a wife and a mother of three. CONTRIBUTED

Madam character inspired by kin

Television. Leoni says she looks to her father when portraying the secretary of state

Wednesday was Tea Leoni's birthday. But when referring to her age recently, she realized she wouldn't be turning 50 this time, but 49 instead.

"I keep doing this!" she laughed, meaning giving her age a boost. Ever since her last birthday, she had reported her age as 49. "I lost 48 this year — totally!"

It started as a playful goof on the ploy of a friend who routinely claims she's eight years older than she is. "Then people tell her, 'Oh, my God! You're gorgeous!'"

There is no need for Leoni to give herself any such cover. She is gorgeous, agelessly and naturally, even bundled in sweater

and jeans against a raw winter day in a sandwich shop near her Manhattan apartment.

"I really do want to do something special for my 50th," she announced in her husky purr.

This was a rare day off from shooting her CBS political drama, *Madam Secretary* (airing Sunday, 8 p.m. EST), which, since premiering last fall, has spurred one question over and over for its star: Who inspired her portrayal of her character, Secretary of State Elizabeth McCord — real-life counterparts Hillary Clinton or Condoleezza Rice or Madeleine Albright?

"For a while," Leoni said, "I joked around that it was (Henry) Kissinger, because I was getting so tired of the question."

But the truth is, she's inspired by her dad. Anthony Pantaleoni, she said, "is the most even-keeled, most diplomatic human being." A prominent New York corporate attorney,

Acting resumé

- Tea Leoni's many films include *Fun With Dick and Jane*, *Flirting With Disaster*, *Deep Impact* and *Spanglish*. Her previous series include the sitcoms *Flying Blind* and *The Naked Truth*.

"he has the grand empathy to see both sides of a question. I can discuss things with him, and he doesn't get adamant that there's a single right way."

He even inspired Leoni into acting.

"I was going to be an anthropologist, and I was really good at it. But I wasn't passionate about it. He said, 'Don't do something because you're good at it. Do it because you're passionate about it, and you'll get good at it.'"

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Chemistry in the Cards for characters

TV. Actors Mahershala Ali and Molly Parker talk Remy and Jackie's understated love story

LISA
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Metro in New York

House of Cards, Netflix's Macbeth-esque look at the extremes to which Frank Underwood and his wife Claire go to achieve and maintain power, is not known for love stories. But that's just what Mahershala Ali's lobbyist Remy Danton and Molly Parker's congresswoman Jackie Sharp find themselves in. We talked to them about why their characters are willing to take risks for love in a power-mad world.

On connection

Mahershala Ali: Remy has a lot of respect for Jackie. Sometimes you just can't explain chemistry, either. I think they



Molly Parker and Mahershala Ali find love in the dark, twisty world of House of Cards. DAVID GIESBRECHT / FOR NETFLIX

hit it off in a way that kind of goes a little bit beyond words. He's just drawn to her. She's an attractive woman who wields a certain degree of power. I think the circles that Remy finds himself in, I think it's been difficult for him to

find a partner. Someone who he can really have a conversation with on that level who he finds attractive, who challenges him.

Molly Parker: I mean, I think that Jackie and Remy have a

very pure, hot, physical connection. ... Here's this man who is very much like her in many ways. He has a lot of the same qualities in terms of his intelligence and his ambitions and his willingness to sacrifice his life for power and money,

and yet they have this incredibly deep pull towards one another for which they would have to risk all of these other things that they've worked for in order to be together, because those are the stakes.

On working together

Ali: I really just love working with Molly. And any way that I can get that, I'm really appreciative. I think (writer) Beau Willimon does a wonderful job as far as challenging us as actors and when we sit down and we're kind of co-creating and collaborating,

Molly and I get to really comb through it and try to get to the essence of the relationship and kind of dig into whatever scene it is that we're working on that day. Like what it means, what it's really about, what's beneath it, what's not really being said.

Parker: They're great scenes. Mahershala Ali is one of the most loving human beings I've ever met, truly, and we

have such a great time with that relationship, just as actors, just sort of exploring all of the hidden dynamics of that relationship. It's really fun. He's so lovely.

On what they'll sacrifice to stay together

Ali: I think any time you love someone, you're willing to put yourself out there and take risks for that person. And I think we'll learn more about that this season, but Jackie just holds a special place in his heart. So I definitely think he would put himself out there for her yet again.

Parker: She's had this taste of this power of being in the leadership. At the beginning of the season, we find her in a place where she needs to find a way back to the seat of power and the way in which she does that has tremendous consequences for her personal life.

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Show unexpectedly predicts and depicts tensions between Russia and the States

TV. House of Cards' new season to zero in on political unrest

For Season 3 of House of Cards, expect the dastardly and newly empowered Frank Underwood to square off against his coldest and most formidable foe yet: Russia.

The geopolitical plotline involving Kevin Spacey's freshly sworn-in president and the distinctly Putin-esque Russian leader Viktor Petrov (Lars Mikkelsen) may feel Xeroxed from the morning paper, but Cards creator Beau Willimon swears the show conceived the conflict first.

"Our concern in the writers' room was that it might be too far afield from reality, because at the time we were conceiving it, nothing was really going on with Russia aside from the Sochi Olympics," Willimon said this week in a telephone inter-



Claire, played by Robin Wright, will see new outlets for her ambition now that she's in the White House, says House of Cards creator Beau Willimon. DAVID GIESBRECHT FOR NETFLIX

view.

"As we were writing and filming, Crimea erupted, sanctions were introduced, and all of that happened after we had developed our story.

"So it can seem we were ripping from the headlines or trying to somehow parallel what was going on in current events, but in truth, I guess current events caught up with us."

With the third season of House of Cards set to hit Netflix on Friday, the Oscar and Emmy nominee was keeping his, ahem, cards close to his chest. But Willimon was will-

Creator's commentary

So what happens now?



Frank Underwood has always been a striver. Now that he seemingly has everything he wants, where does he go from here?

"Is there anywhere higher to go? Is the only direction down? Do you have to fight for your life to stay on the summit? This is the stuff of drama. And you'll get answers to all those questions in Season 3," says creator Beau Willimon.

ing to share a few details of the upcoming season.

What does Frank's presidency mean for (his wife) Claire?

Willimon: Claire has always been extremely ambitious — the climb to the top hasn't been Frank's alone, it's been this couple. The marriage between Frank and Claire has al-

ways been central to House of Cards. I would say it's the core of the story. That's something we'll be investigating. We've known from the beginning that Claire had a great deal of ambition, now they both find themselves in the White House. What are the outlets for that ambition?

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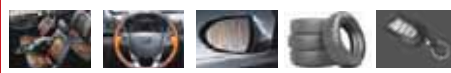
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Gossip

NED EHRBAR
METRO'S TAKE
ON THE WORLD
OF CELEBRITIES


The \$150,000 dress Lupita Nyong'o wore to the Oscars was stolen. ALL GETTY



Tears of pearls

This is just terrible.

Remember that ridiculously pretty dress Lupita Nyong'o wore to the Oscars last weekend? The one made from more than 6,000 Akoya pearls?

Well, according to TMZ, someone broke into her hotel room at the London in West

Hollywood on Tuesday and stole it.

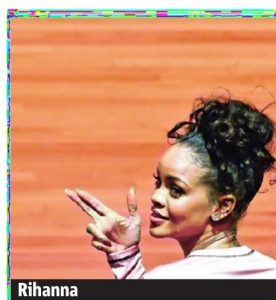
Yes, just walked out of the hotel with it. The gown, by Calvin Klein Collection, is said to be worth about \$150,000.

Police are currently investigating, and there is said to be security footage of the crime as

it happened.

Hopefully designers won't hold this incident against Nyong'o, who has become something of a red carpet fashion plate since she came on the scene for 12 Years a Slave, as that's a trend that should totally continue.

RiRi aims at love



Rihanna

So this rumoured burgeoning romance between Rihanna and Leonardo DiCaprio? Apparently Rihanna's had designs on him for a while. "Rihanna said that Leonardo is her childhood crush. She said that she's wanted him since she was a teenager," a source tells Radar Online. "She is actually really, really into him." To be fair, though, Rihanna was a teenager, like, seven or eight years ago. I'm guessing it was The Aviator that got her going.

Ice-T is 50 Shades of unimpressed

You mean to tell me Ice-T wasn't that impressed with the raunchiness of Fifty Shades of Grey? Apparently so. The rapper and Law & Order: Special Victims Unit star goes so far as to say the movie "could've been on Nickelodeon." Ouch.

"I went to see it with Coco. Coco read the books, and she said they were boring. She didn't make me go, I wanted to see what all the women were talking about," he tells Jimmy Fallon.

"It just kept building up. And I'm like, 'What's gonna happen? What's gonna happen?' And she told me that's just how the books are. It's kinda like Lost, where you think something's gonna happen and you keep watching it."

That may be the first time anyone's made that particular comparison.



Ice T and Coco found 50 Shades of Grey anticlimactic.

Ricardo is a Canadian chef, television host and author on a mission: To unite people through the pleasure of food. Discover his delicious and simple recipes every Friday — just in time for the weekend

Beat the winter blahs with fresh citrus twist

Entertaining. This Lemon and Basil Scallops dish comes together quickly but will impress dinner guests



RICARDO COOKS
Chef Ricardo
Ricardo Magazine

For a dose of freshness choose recipes that combine savoury seafood and the tang of citrus, like this one, which comes together in less than an hour.

Ingredients

Lemon Cream

- 1 cup (250 ml) 35% cooking cream
- 1/4 cup (60 ml) chicken broth
- Grated zest of 1 lemon
- 1 tsp (5 ml) lemon juice
- Salt and pepper

Basil Oil

- 1/4 cup (60 ml) olive oil
- 1/4 cup (11 g) chopped fresh basil
- 1/2 tsp (2 1/2 ml) lemon juice
- Salt and pepper

Vegetable Julienne

- 1/3 cup (76 g) butter
- 6 carrots, peeled and cut into julienne
- 1 leek, cut into julienne

Scallops

- 20 large scallops
- 2 tbsp (30 ml) olive oil
- Salt and pepper



This recipe serves four. COURTESY RICARDOCUISINE.COM

Lemon Cream

1. In a saucepan, combine all the ingredients. Cook over medium heat for about 15 minutes to reduce by half. Season with salt and pepper. Keep warm.

Basil Oil

1. Combine all the ingredients in a small food processor or with a whisk. Set aside.

Vegetable Julienne

1. In a skillet, over medium

heat, melt 3 tbsp of butter. Add the vegetables and cook for about 6 minutes. Season with salt and pepper. Keep warm.

Scallops

1. With the rack in the middle position, preheat the oven to 375 F (190 C).

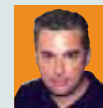
2. In skillet over high heat, add 1 tbsp of the butter and 1 tbsp of the oil. Sear half the scallops for about 1 minute on each side. Season with salt and

pepper. Set aside on a baking sheet. Repeat with the remaining scallops, butter, and oil. Place the baking sheet in the oven and cook for about 2 minutes.

3. Arrange vegetables in the centre of the plates and the scallops around them. Drizzle with lemon cream and run a thread of basil oil around the edge of plate. **FOLLOW RICARDO ON SOCIAL MEDIA AND ON RICARDOCUISINE.COM OR SUBSCRIBE TO HIS MAGAZINE'S ENGLISH EDITION, WHICH LAUNCHED IN 2014.**

Liquid Assets

New Zealand's bold flavours



LIQUID ASSETS
Peter Rockwell
@therealwineguy
liquidassets@eastlink.ca

Wine is more than just a drink. It's an experience.

While where you are and who you're with can certainly affect your liquid enjoyment, for me nothing beats combining wine with food.

When I travel, I always look for the opportunity to eat my way into the mind of the winemaker.

You'd think that plan works best in old school wine-producing countries like those in Europe.

Not so. When I was in New Zealand last year, I was impressed by how wineries looked to their regional kitchens for inspiration, and this week's recipe from Chef Ricardo for lime and basil scallops sounds like a page out of the Kiwi cookbook.

In New Zealand, seafood is king and scallops are a national delicacy.

The citrus and herbal elements of Ricardo's dish match perfectly with a wine like Cloudy Bay's 2013 Sauvignon Blanc (\$31.95 - \$36.99), a white with rich, bold flavours that's earned the winery the reputation as one of New Zealand's best producers. **PRICES REFLECT THE RANGE ACROSS THE COUNTRY. SOME PRODUCTS MAY NOT BE AVAILABLE IN ALL PROVINCES.**



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HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Dating with an STI

Living with an incurable sexually transmitted infection (STI) can make dating much more intimidating than it already is. But it doesn't have to be a prison sentence, says Shannon Boodram, a clinical sexologist who appears regularly on *The Insider*.

"STIs have public relations that have told everyone that contracting an STI is a huge deal and will ruin your life or potentially end it," she says. "This is how the system attempts to scare people out of having sex and it isn't fair to those living happily with



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"By law in Canada you must disclose to sexual partners that you are HIV positive, and Public Health would recommend the

same for any incurable disease," says Boodram. Under criminal law you could be charged for not telling your partner before having vaginal, anal or oral sex, or other activities that could expose them to HIV.

an STI. So, learn as much as possible so you can answer any question someone may have when you choose to share your status."

While Boodram says you aren't obligated to share your status with everyone, it becomes an essential conversation when you

see a relationship progressing toward sexual intimacy.

"Most people contract an STI because they were not given all of the information about their partner's status and thus did not take the proper precautions," she says. "Remember the anger and betrayal you felt when you found out you had been tricked into a situation you were not prepared for? Why do that to someone else?" — Izabela Szydlo

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Laser Rejuvenation Clinic and Spa treats skin issues

Unwanted hair, wrinkles, acne, moles, birthmarks, age spots, sun spots, scars, warts, and tattoos are a fact of life but those confidence-breakers can now be safely and effortlessly erased with revolutionary, new laser technology.

Dr. Tom Woo from the Calgary Laser Rejuvenation Clinic and Spa says many people can feel self-conscious and helpless about their unwanted cosmetic markings but he says specially-trained medical staff can precisely renew their skin with precise laser light technology.

"Once they come here for treatment they emerge renewed and transformed, with the confidence to have their skin seen and touched while highlighting their natural beauty," he says.

Not only can your appearance receive a tune up but the dermatologists at the clinic can treat medical conditions, too. For example, dry hands can be a side-effect of a cold Canadian winter but for many, chronic hand eczema is a year-round condition that can cause a lot of strife.

There are new treatments that are very effective.

The other services the clinic provides include a 'laser' treatment that can dissolve fat and cellulite (Velashape and Ultrashape) as well as the highly-popular Botox and Juvederm procedures as they have the most experience with these techniques of anyone in Alberta.

"Laser Rejuvenation Clinic and Spa — bringing the science of technology to the art of beauty," Woo adds.

HRS helps you look and feel your best

Many men are accustomed to hair loss but people are surprised to learn women can be affected as well.

There are treatments that can help alleviate or rectify hair loss for both men and women, according to Hair Restoration Services (HRS) owner Arlene Forster, who says hair replacement is a non-surgical and natural-looking way to have a full head of hair within hours.

"We specialize in hair restoration services and even though 80 per cent of our clients are men, we have women who suffer from hair loss, too," she says, adding one in four women suffer from some form of hair loss.

That's why HRS of Calgary Inc. offers a wide variety face, body and hair restoration services. These services include hair replacement, laser light therapy for hair restoration, women's Wonderfil, and Hot Heads hair extensions. Skin tightening, fractional skin treatment, non-invasive body contouring and cool laser hair removal are also offered.

"We help people look and feel their best," Forster says, adding they specialize in various men's hair loss solutions, women's hair loss



CONTRIBUTED

solutions, hair extensions and hair enhancements. "Restore, repair and rejuvenate yourself."

HRS of Calgary Inc. has been in business since 1992 and is well known for its reputation for reliability and integrity, having been recipients 11 times of the Consumer Choice Award from 2005 to 2014.

FIT-PRO CUSTOM ORTHOTICS USES INNOVATIVE METHODS

Many people tend to avoid dealing with nagging pains in their backs or legs but sometimes that pain is actually related to their feet and can be easily treated.

That's why many people are turning to custom orthotics to deal with those foot-related issues that cause pain in other parts of the body, according to Bow Valley Chiropractic biomechanics specialist, Balwinder Marwaha.

"Foot care is one of the fastest growing, yet most neglected, areas of health care today. The incidence of foot problems increases with age, making this issue timely," Marwaha says. "The popularity of high heels also makes this an interesting topic for women as they suffer from four times as many foot problems as men."

Often when people think of orthotic therapy, they might think of plaster cast molding, and they would be correct. But orthotic therapy — custom inserts worn in shoes — is in the midst of major technological advancement.

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"This allows us to diagnose the patient's foot while in motion rather than sitting static



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and the result is a computerized gait analysis report that provides a thorough clinical assessment to help the doctor prescribe custom orthotics literally within minutes."

FIT PRO CUSTOM ORTHOTICS

COMPUTERIZED CUSTOM ORTHOTICS

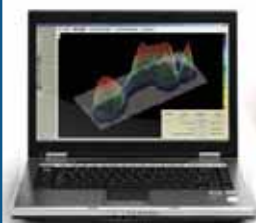
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With the Canadian men's curling championship set to go Saturday night at the Saddledome, here are some tidbits to keep your eye on:

THE CANADIAN PRESS

1

Brier's Battle of Alberta

Tuesday evening's draw features the Brier's Battle of Alberta, but Calgarians John Morris and Kevin Koe have already met three times this curling season. Koe is 2-0 versus Morris in Grand Slam events with one-point wins in both. Morris won four skins to Koe's two in the Pinty's Skins Game semifinal last month.

John Morris and Kevin Koe faced each other at last year's Brier in Kamloops, B.C. TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



5

Brier storylines

5

Olympic gold yes, Canadian title no

Brad Gushue has led Newfoundland and Labrador into the playoffs seven of 11 times at the Brier, but a national title has eluded the 34-year-old skip. Gushue was just 26 when he and Mark Nichols, Russ Howard and Jamie Korab won Canada's first men's curling gold at the 2006 Winter Olympics.

Newfoundland and Labrador's Brad Gushue

TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE



2

Northern Ontario revival

Brad Jacobs ended a 28-year drought for Northern Ontario at the Brier two years ago. His Sault Ste. Marie, Ont., rink will try to make it two Canadian titles in a row. They didn't play in last year's Brier because of their run to Olympic gold in Sochi, Russia.

Northern Ontario's Brad Jacobs
GETTY IMAGES



3

Big bag of bonuses

\$144K

In addition to wearing the Maple Leaf at the upcoming world curling championship in Halifax, the Brier winner gains automatic entry into this year's Home Hardware Canada Cup of Curling, next year's World Financial Group Continental Cup of Curling in Las Vegas and the 2016 Brier in Ottawa. The victors earn \$55,000 in prize money, get another \$20,000 for cresting at both the Brier and world championship and are eligible for up to \$144,000 over a two-year period from Sport Canada. This year's winner also qualifies for the 2017 pre-trials for the next Winter Olympics.

4

Minus McEwen

The top-ranked men's team in Canada is not in the field. Mike McEwen's team is far and away the World Curling Tour's money leader. But McEwen lost the Manitoba final for the fifth time in six years when he fell to Reid Carruthers.



Mike McEwen TORSTAR NEWS SERVICE

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Deadline buyers and sellers

NHL. Looking at the Canadian teams' needs days before trade cutoff

Canada's seven NHL teams have very different perspectives and goals to accomplish before Monday's trade deadline.

Here's a look at where they stand as the clock ticks down to 3 p.m. on March 2.

MONTREAL CANADIENS

Status: Buyers
Skinny: General manager Marc Bergevin already made a hockey trade by swapping skilled but inexperienced winger Jiri Sekac with Devante Smith-Pelly, a big-

ger and more physical player from the Anaheim Ducks. The Habs could use another defenceman, though, especially a right-handed one.

OTTAWA SENATORS

Status: Sitters
Skinny: If the decision has been made not to trade long-time tough guy Chris Neil, the Senators may be best suited to stand pat. Defenceman Marc Methot is off the market thanks to his new contract, and Ottawa doesn't have many assets to sell off for spare parts.

TORONTO MAPLE LEAFS

Status: Sellers
Skinny: Cody Franson, Mike

The Senators' Chris Neil FRANCOIS LAPLANTE/FREESTYLEPHOTO/GETTY IMAGES

Santorelli, Daniel Winnik and David Clarkson are already gone as GM Dave Nonis got a jump on the trade-deadline frenzy. But the Leafs are far from done, especially with Olli Jokinen, David Booth and Korbinian Holzer as impeding free agents and a large-scale rebuild coming soon.

WINNIPEG JETS

Status: Buyers
Skinny: The Evander Kane blockbuster set the table for what should be a legitimate playoff chase in Winnipeg, and the deal for Jiri Tlustý gave the Jets more needed depth. But with a chance to make the post-season for the first time in this incarnation, the Jets could still make another move.

CALGARY FLAMES

Status: Sitters
Skinny: The Flames are in the playoff race in the Western Conference like the Jets, but they're still supposed to be on the upward climb and have a long-term plan. Other than dealing pending free agent Curtis Glencross, GM

Brad Treliving might sit on this team and hope it can get it done.

EDMONTON OILERS

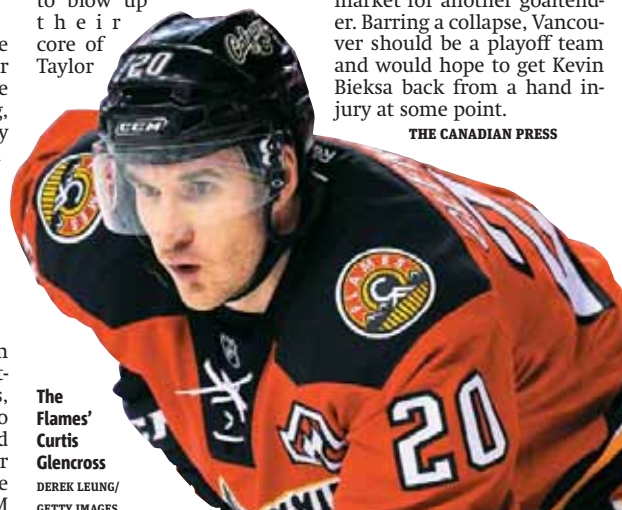
Status: Sellers
Skinny: Despite being last in the West, the Oilers aren't expected to be active because they don't have many movable pieces and don't want to blow up their core of Taylor

Hall, Ryan Nugent-Hopkins and Jordan Eberle just yet. Defenceman Jeff Petry is Edmonton's biggest trade chip.

VANCOUVER CANUCKS

Status: Sitters
Skinny: Ryan Miller's injury puts the onus on Eddie Lack and Jacob Markstrom, but the Canucks aren't in the market for another goaltender. Barring a collapse, Vancouver should be a playoff team and would hope to get Kevin Bieksa back from a hand injury at some point.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



The Flames' Curtis Glencross DEREK LEUNG/GETTY IMAGES

Panthers acquire Jagr from Devils

The Florida Panthers acquired Jaromir Jagr from the New Jersey Devils on Thursday for a second-round pick in June and either Florida or Minnesota's third-round pick in 2016.

Jagr had 11 goals and 18 assists in 57 games this season for New Jersey. His playing time has been cut recently and he has gone eight games without a point.

Jagr is sixth in NHL history with 716 goals, seventh with 1,068 assists and fifth with 1,784 points in 1,530 career regular-season games in 22 years. The Czech star also has 78 goals and 121 assists in 202 playoff games. He helped Pittsburgh win Stanley Cup titles in his first two seasons in the NHL in 1990-91 and 1991-92.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Leafs get Horton from Columbus for Clarkson

The Maple Leafs have traded winger David Clarkson to the Columbus Blue Jackets for injured forward Nathan Horton.

Clarkson's \$36.75-million US, seven-year contract had five seasons left.

Horton also has five years left on a \$37-million, seven-year deal, but could be on long-term injured reserve, saving the Leafs some salary-cap space.

Clarkson was a healthy scratch for two straight games earlier this month for Toronto and has 10 goals and five assists in 58 games. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Sabres pull off upset of Canucks

Torrey Mitchell scored a pair of goals as the Buffalo Sabres defeated the Vancouver Canucks 6-3 on Thursday night.

It was Mitchell's first goal since Nov. 22, and his first multi-goal night since March 23, 2011.

Chris Stewart, Andrej Meszaros, Brian Flynn and Brian Gionta also scored for the Sabres, who were without their two leading scorers, Tyler Ennis and Zemgus Girgensons, due to injury. The win gave last-place Buffalo victories in consecutive games for just the fourth time this season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



Adrian Peterson GETTY IMAGES

NFL. Judge rules to have Peterson's ban lifted

In NFL limbo for the last five-plus months, Adrian Peterson's future with the Minnesota Vikings is still in question.

The path toward resolution of his status has been cleared, though the clash between league and the union over the personal conduct policy persists.

Commissioner Roger Goodell and the NFL were handed a second high-profile legal defeat Thursday, when U.S. District Judge David Doty overruled league arbitrator Harold Henderson's December denial of the six-time Pro Bowl running back's appeal.

Doty ruled that Henderson "failed to meet his duty" in considering Peterson's punishment, for the child abuse charge that brought national backlash for the league on the heels of the bungled handling of the assault case involving former Baltimore Ravens running back Ray Rice.

Doty said the league cannot retroactively apply the standards of its new, tougher personal conduct policy to an action by Peterson that occurred before the policy was in place. The league suspended Peterson through at least April 15 under the new standard, which arose from

the furor over the handling of the assault involving Rice. But Doty said in his 16-page ruling that Henderson "simply disregarded the law of the shop and in doing so failed to meet his duty" under the collective bargaining agreement.

NFL Players Association executive director DeMaurice Smith said in a statement Doty's decision was a "victory for the rule of law, due process and fairness."

The NFL promptly filed its protest to the 8th Circuit Court of Appeals. The league also returned Peterson to the exempt list he spent two months on last season pending completion of the process.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

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Gibbons gets yet another question mark

Blue Jays. Michael Saunders out till July after freak sprinkler accident

A Blue Jays roster already dotted with question marks became a little more uncertain Thursday.

News that Canadian Michael Saunders had suffered a knee injury in a freak sprinkler head accident added a red flag in left field and left Toronto manager John Gibbons with another spring-training headache.

The 28-year-old Victoria native is expected to undergo surgery to repair a torn meniscus and not be back until the mid-July all-star break, GM Alex Anthopoulos said.

Sluggish Edwin Encarnacion arrived Thursday to see Saunders hobble out.

"I drove my car inside and I see Saunders with the two crutches. Wow," Encarnacion said. "A little frustrating."

"Before spring training starts, it hurts," he added. "That's very hard for him and

for the team because we need him."

Friday marks the first full workout for the team involving star position players like Encarnacion, Jose Bautista and Jose Reyes.

Gibbons has to sort out second base, settle on a centre-fielder, figure out his first base and designated hitter permutations, decide on his catching options beyond Russell Martin, choose a closer, and flesh out both his bullpen and the tail end of his starting rotation.

He remains optimistic, citing key additions like Martin and third baseman Josh Donaldson. "I think this is the best team we've had."

But he acknowledged it is proving to be one of the more challenging spring trainings.

"It's probably the most important, because we've got some decisions we've got to make that we've got to get right. There's some jobs at stake."

Saunders' left-handed bat will be missed. He hit .273 with eight home runs and 34 RBIs over 78 games in 2014.

The Jays had planned an outfield of Saunders in left,

In detail

The six-foot-four 225-pound Saunders, who arrived in a December trade that sent pitcher J.A. Happ to Seattle, had reported to camp early to get a head start with the Jays. He was shagging balls Wednesday morning at the team's training complex when he jammed his foot on a sprinkler head indentation.

Saunders said the pitch was a little wet at the time. "It was a tiny bit slippery, I just think I stepped in the wrong spot."

Canadian Dalton Pompey or Kevin Pillar in centre and Bautista in right. Pompey and Pillar have 96 big-league games between them.

Anthopoulos has already started making calls about possible outfield replacements but said any move would likely come at the end of the spring and would have to be tempered by what happens when Saunders returns.

THE CANADIAN PRESS



Michael Saunders tore his left meniscus on a sprinkler at spring training and will have to undergo surgery to repair it. He's expected to return only at the mid-July all-star break. NATHAN DENETTE/THE CANADIAN PRESS

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crossword and Sudoku answers.
It's OK. No one's watching.



Horoscopes by Sally Brompton

♈ Aries

March 21 - April 20

A clash of egos is likely over the next 24 hours but that's OK. It's time you reminded certain people that you are the boss. Don't go too far though.

♉ Taurus

April 21 - May 21

You will go out of your way to calm someone down but your efforts may not be enough. The fact is their emotions are a bit raw, so make allowances.

♊ Gemini

May 22 - June 21

Ask others for their opinions today but don't let what they say bind you to a certain course of action. Others will respect you more if you act according to your own principles.

♋ Cancer

June 22 - July 23

No one is perfect, not even a Cancer, and if you accept that fact you won't waste valuable time worrying that you failed to live up to expectations.

♌ Leo

July 24 - Aug. 23

Someone will appeal to your sense of duty but you must not blindly do as they ask. You are willing to help but you must be convinced that what you are doing is for the greater good.

♍ Virgo

Aug. 24 - Sept. 23

You will trust what you are told on the work front today, simply because the person doing the telling is someone you look up to. However, according to the planets they have got it wrong.

♎ Libra

Sept. 24 - Oct. 23

You cannot solve your problems by throwing cash at them. If anything that will just make matters worse. According to the planets it won't be long before a better way presents itself.

♏ Scorpio

Oct. 24 - Nov. 22

Spend as much time as you can with loved ones because over the weekend they will be very busy and you will have things to occupy you as well.

♐ Sagittarius

Nov. 23 - Dec. 21

If someone throws their weight around your instinct will be to start throwing things back at them, but don't be too hasty. A more effective response is to ignore them.

♑ Capricorn

Dec. 22 - Jan. 20

Be careful when dealing with people in positions of authority today. It does not matter that you are right, what matters is that they have the power.

♒ Aquarius

Jan. 21 - Feb. 19

A loved one will tell you something you don't want to hear today, not least because it involves bad things about a person you like. Their motive is to drive a wedge between you.

♓ Pisces

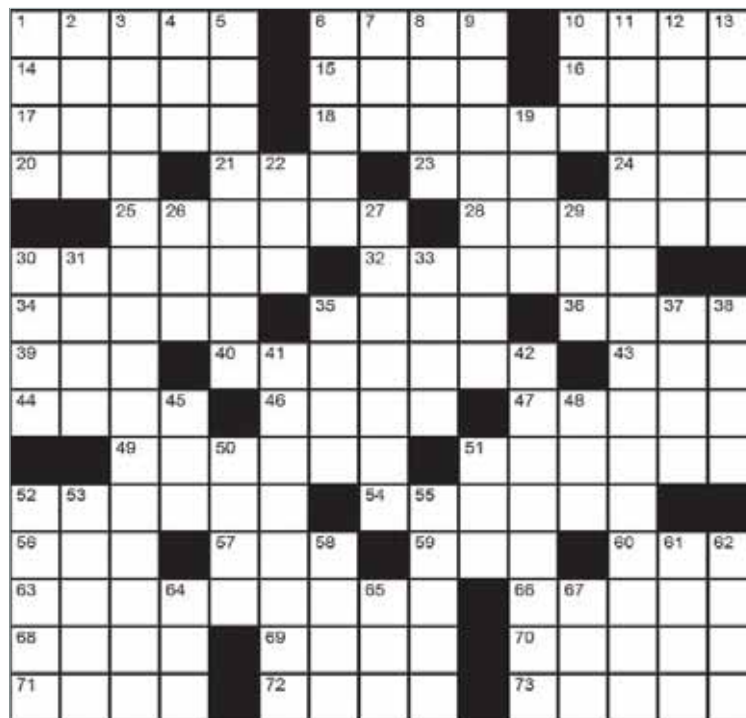
Feb. 20 - March 20

Someone you live or work with will try to take liberties over the next 24 hours and you must not let them get away with it. If they do it once they will try again!

Crossword: Canada Across and Down by Kelly Ann Buchanan

Across

1. "Sing, Sing, Sing" drummer, Gene ____ (b.1909 - d.1973)
6. Brood
10. Scheduled date, briefly
14. Banqueted
15. Bee Gees: "More ____ a Woman"
16. Ms. Kunis
17. Annually, ____ year
18. New Brunswick community known for a tragic 1959 storm
20. Old English letter
21. Curly's pal
23. ____-Fi
24. Personal history blurb
25. Guarantee
28. Coach in Archie Comics
30. Workshop tools
32. Sun: French
34. Primitive painter of France, ____ 'Le Douanier' Rousseau
35. A-F link
36. Batch
39. 'Prop' suffix (Fuel)
40. Spectators' cry of double displeasure
43. Spring month
44. Mrs. Lincoln's maiden name
46. Emily Carr book, ____ Wyck
47. Janis Joplin's nickname
49. Red Square city
51. Arctic Circle = ____



Arctique

52. Music-listener's purchase
54. Mr. John of CBC comedy "Mr. D"
56. Angle type, briefly
57. Sundance Film Festival actor ...his initials-sharers
59. Mythical bird
60. Gremlin

63. Frisbee's friend
66. Vietnam's capital
68. Prefix meaning 'Within'
69. Friend for Francoise
70. Spew
71. Curious George co-writers Margret and H.A.
72. Front-of-the-pack

- position
73. Cheeky

Down

1. "Mother-in-Law": 1961 hit for Ernie ____
2. Tangerine part
3. Righteous Brothers hit: 2 wds.
4. Baseball great, " ____ Wee" Reese
5. Eve's origins: 2 wds.
6. Turn
7. Hesitant sounds
8. Quebec 'lakes'
9. Moose ____, Canadian parka company
10. "Who ____ to say?"
11. Virgil's smuggled

- goods in Mordecai Richler's 1959 novel The Apprenticeship of Duddy Kravitz: 2 wds.
12. SVP part
13. Old El Paso creations
19. "The Green ____" (1999)
22. 'Humor' suffix
26. Sun. message
27. Shuns
29. ' ____' for Elmira
30. Excellent, in slang
31. Stand-up guy Jay
33. Garfield's pal
35. Western-style tie
37. Actor, James ____ Jones
38. Actor Noah
41. Wild West - 1881: Legendary gunfight site in Arizona, ____
42. Song by Canadian band Walk Off The Earth
45. Val- ____, Quebec
48. Hosp. units
50. Parched
51. ____-Magnon Man
52. Post-rehab state
53. Bluegrass musician, ____ Burnett
55. Recommended strongly
58. Ditto
61. Supermodel Kate
62. Sympathy
64. Feb. and Mar.
65. Ms. Peebles
67. Title in Turkey, variantly

Yesterday's Crossword



Online

See today's answers at
metronews.ca/answers



Conceptis Sudoku by Dave Green

How to play

Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

Yesterday's Sudoku

5	1	6	4	9	2	8	7	3
8	4	7	1	6	3	5	9	2
2	9	3	8	7	5	6	4	1
3	6	4	5	2	8	9	1	7
1	8	9	6	3	7	4	2	5
7	5	2	9	1	4	3	8	6
9	2	1	3	4	6	7	5	8
6	7	5	2	8	9	1	3	4
4	3	8	7	5	1	2	6	9

			9	1	7		8	
	1					6		
	4		2			1		
9				5		3		
	3			6				
8		1				2		
7			4		3			
3						4		
8		5	7	6				

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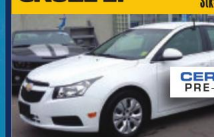
STK#45355A
6.0L V8, Heated Leather Interior, Navigation, Power Group, Chrome Alloy Wheels, Climate Control
WAS \$34,987 NOW \$29,673

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WAS \$40,987 NOW \$35,783

2014 CHEV SILVERADO 2500HD



STK#SR3280
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WAS \$50,995 NOW \$46,898

2009 NISSAN TITAN LE



STK#57053A
V6, LOADED WITH LEATHER
WAS \$19,999 NOW \$14,999

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STK#UP2046
4X4, CREW CAB V8, 4.8L, A/C, C/C, PWR WINDOWS, LOCK & MIRROR
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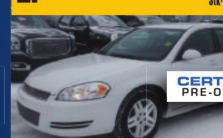
STK#UP1585A
6.2L V8, 6 Speed Auto, Trailer Tow Pkg, Heated Leather Seats, Dual DVD Screens, Navigation, 3rd Row Seating, Keyless Entry
WAS \$44,995 NOW \$39,372

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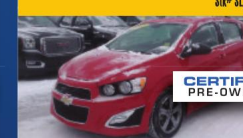
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BMW X5 AWD



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